Council approves auto parts store over neig… page B-3

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DATE

Romulus Roman

Thursday, Aug. 27, 1998 | Vol. 104, Number 35 | THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF ROMULUS | 4 Sections 50 Pages | 75¢

SPORTS See page C-1
Wayne Memorial welcomes back Carter

MCN
MICHIGAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

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Super K may be super, but it's not a super neighbor

I support Geoffrey Fieger for governor and would like to pass out fliers at the strip centers telling my Canton neighbors why he's the best man for the job. The best place to pass out fliers for the best candidate ought to be at the biggest store in town, Super K.

Unfortunately, Super K prohibits the distribution of fliers. Encouraging grass roots democracy apparently isn't one of the discounter's priorities.

The giant discounter can come into town, rent space on Ford Road, abandon it, leave an empty storefront on the township's main highway for a year, and then move across town for as long as it's convenient, causing traffic concerns. But it can't allow space for people to express themselves – not even once every two years.

Super K may be super, but it's not a super neighbor.

Letter to white family doesn't compare to anti-black racism

I just finished reading "White family shocked by racist letter," and I'm shocked. Where's the racism? You have a white family who has received a screwy letter but there's no way of knowing who wrote the letter. The family said their house was egged but doesn't know who did it. This is not racism. It's an insult to blacks who suffer real racism.

Caller pleased to hear that Mildred Evans hasn't disappeared

Thanks for the Mildred Evans update. I miss her and am glad to know that she's OK. If she's looking for affordable senior housing, she can move to [*name of complex deleted – Ed.*] for $305 a month. There are vacancies.

'Sound Off' ought to be printed in the 'Wayne Eagle,' too

I'm a citizen in Wayne. Why don't we get "Sound Off" in the *Eagle* when Westland, Canton, Garden City and everybody else does? What's the problem with the *Wayne Eagle*?

INSIDE

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Thursday, August 27, 1998
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Romulus Middle School students Kristina Rafalski and Cassie Wilson are shown working together on creating team building skills for the new school year. MCN Special Photo

Romulus Schools to open Sept. 9

By AL POST
MCN Staff Writer

In preparation for the district's school reopenings on Sept. 9, a crew of 32 Middle School students joined Principal Ed Clark in a two day summer leadership academy.

The twin day program provided students with many opportunities to develop qualities that will help them do a better job in Middle School this year, Clark said.

He added "I wish we could provide summer workshop opportunities for all of the students." Generally students who attend the workshops are the class and grade leaders for that year.

They practiced strategies including: positive peer interaction, conflict resolution techniques, leadership and team building skills, community service projects and school pride and spirit.

Student teams were developed during the sessions and changed after each break.

The academy was sponsored for the fifth straight year by the Leadership Club and directed by Betty Santo.

Santo feels what is learned each summer cannot be measured by tests. "These students are absolutely wonderful. They are full of enthusiasm, ideas and are committed to doing their best for themselves, their school and their community.

The theme of the academy was best expressed by a participant Kristina Rafalski, who said students were provided "great ways to participate in helping to improve the fine image of our city."

This year's school hours include: grade schools from 8:54 a.m. to 3:16 p.m., Middle School from 7:55 a.m. to 2:27 p.m. and Romulus High School from 7:40 a.m. to 2:12 p.m.

The first day will be a full day of school and lunch will be offered for purchase.

Oakley roadway adds 4 streets

By AL POST
MCN Staff Writer

Romulus roads will get a little friendlier in coming weeks/months even if the skies over the city do not.

An enthused Mayor William Oakley revealed Monday night that four more roadways have been added to his 1998 resurfacing project load, thanks to "repaving bids that came in lower than anticipated."

The Romulus City Council awarded the paving jobs to Barrett Paving — one of three bidders --- with a bid of $828,839 along with an addendum for an additional $157,485 for the four new road sites.

Oakley said after the council meeting that the road projects will probably begin after Labor Day. Unlike previous years, there will be no Nov. 15 seasonal cutoff of road work, he added.

Unlike previous years, there will be no Nov. 15 seasonal cutoff of road work.

The latest to be added to this year's repavement project are: McBride (between Shook and Ozga); Sterling (south of Bibbins); Ball road (between Ecorse and Beverly) and Sterling (between Shook and Goddard).

Romulus Department of Public Works Director David Paul stated in his memorandum to Purchasing Director Kris Moe "as you recall Barrett Paving did our 1997 paving program and we were very satisfied with their performance."

Earlier 13 other Romulus road projects were listed for work this year.

They include: Chamberlain Street (from Beverly to Cincinnati); Washington Street (Beverly road south); Park Place (Washington Street east to dead end); Washington Street (Van Born south); Essex Street (south of Van Born); Newberry Street (south of Van Born); Biddle Street (south of Van Born); Brandt Street (Pennsylvania North to pavement); Beverly Road (Chamberlain Street East to asphalt); Beverly Road (east of asphalt to Merriman); Bibbins Street (Wayne road to Goddard Road); Olive Street (Goddard Road to Bibbins Street, new parking area and the driveway of the west side of the Romulus Polilce Station); and Waynecourse (Ecorse Road to Wayne Road).

Clinton interaction sought in pending airline strike

By AL POST
MCN Staff Writer

Strike delaying action by vacationing President Clinton is still being awaited today at Detroit Metro Airport, following urgent messages that have been passed on to him by Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara and Gov. John Engler.

The zero hour at the Romulus-based airport is 12:01 a.m. Saturday, barring contract settlement between Northwest Airlines and its pilots (which appears unlikely) or action by Clinton (which is not a positive option although the President did block a similar strike against American Airlines in the past).

Since this is a highly political year, Clinton is getting mixed messages from Democratic lawmakers up for reelection -- who are urging him not to step into the labor dispute; and various midwestern governors -- who are pleading with Clinton to delay the strike because of its disastrous impact on their state's economies.

Most in the Romulus area feel like City Councilman William Wadsworth (who actually works at the airport as a County Sheriff's deputy) that hopefully some last minute development will block this weekend's possible strike.

A United Auto Workers union member Ken Stewart rushed into the Romulus City Council meeting Monday night and asked that Romulus police not join in any strike-breaking action at the airport this weekend, if the pilots do stage a walk-out.

Mayor William Oakley and Wadsworth informed Stewart that unless a serious safety situation arose city police would not be called on to the airport grounds.

Sources close to the bargaining teams feel strong vibes that both sides are intent on seeing the strike take place.

Pilot union officials have been conducting informational pickets at Metro Airport and its leaders are urging Clinton to stay out of the labor dispute...since they claim all he can do is delay the strike to an ever more unfavorable time for area residents.

Both sides are also taking out expensive daily newspaper advertisements explaining their side of the current labor dispute.

Passengers are already looking for other flight options than Northwest Airlines, including traveling to airports outside of Wayne County.

Meanwhile other concerned Michigan residents are keeping a watch on the foreign terrorist actions...since further actions against U.S. interests could heighten even further security operations at domestic airports, etc.

They cite that factor as another reason why Clinton should act...saying it would be a cumbersome effort to have tight security at an airport that was in the midst of an emotional pilot strike.

A long term aspect of the current labor strife is also what impact it could have on the successful completion of the massive midfield terminal – currently slated for 2001.

Since union members of all types would be used to construct that mega- million complex, both sides will probably be treading carefully on the possible walkout.

Brownfield unit picked by Oakley

By AL POST
MCN Staff Writer

A five-member Romulus Brownfield Redevelopment Authority board was created Monday night by Mayor William Oakley and was accepted with initial reservations by city council members.

Named to the new board are five existing members of the current Romulus Tax Increment Finance Authority board: Kevin Warrenton, Jeffrey Williams, Michael Hoffman, Larry Williams and Ron Nash.

Council members Debbie Romak and William Wadsworth at first expressed some reservations about Larry Williams, since he is not a Romulus resident. They later approved his appointment.

Williams operates the Precision Hardware operations in Romulus and is a member of the TIFA board. He also serves as chairman of the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce and the local Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center (located at Ecorse and Middlebelt roads).

The council also created a BRA zone that includes the entire city of Romulus, excluding the home property of RECAP member Sandra Yerman.

Yerman had asked that her personal real estate property and the two sites considered to be possible deepwell locations for Environmental Disposal Services be excluded from the zone.

40 Romulus teachers get advanced Internet class

By AL POST
MCN Staff Writer

More than 40 Romulus school teachers spent part of this past summer at the high school learning new technologies for the Internet.

School Internet instructor Phil Rossman stated "there is just one problem with the future...it keeps changing."

He added "things we learned last year will only be useful for 'trivia discussions' in the future. That is why Curriculum Director Thomas Dolan provides many professional development training days for all teachers new and experienced."

Since the Romulus School District has connected all its schools to the Internet, the classes provided staff members with different ways they could use Internet connections in their classrooms.

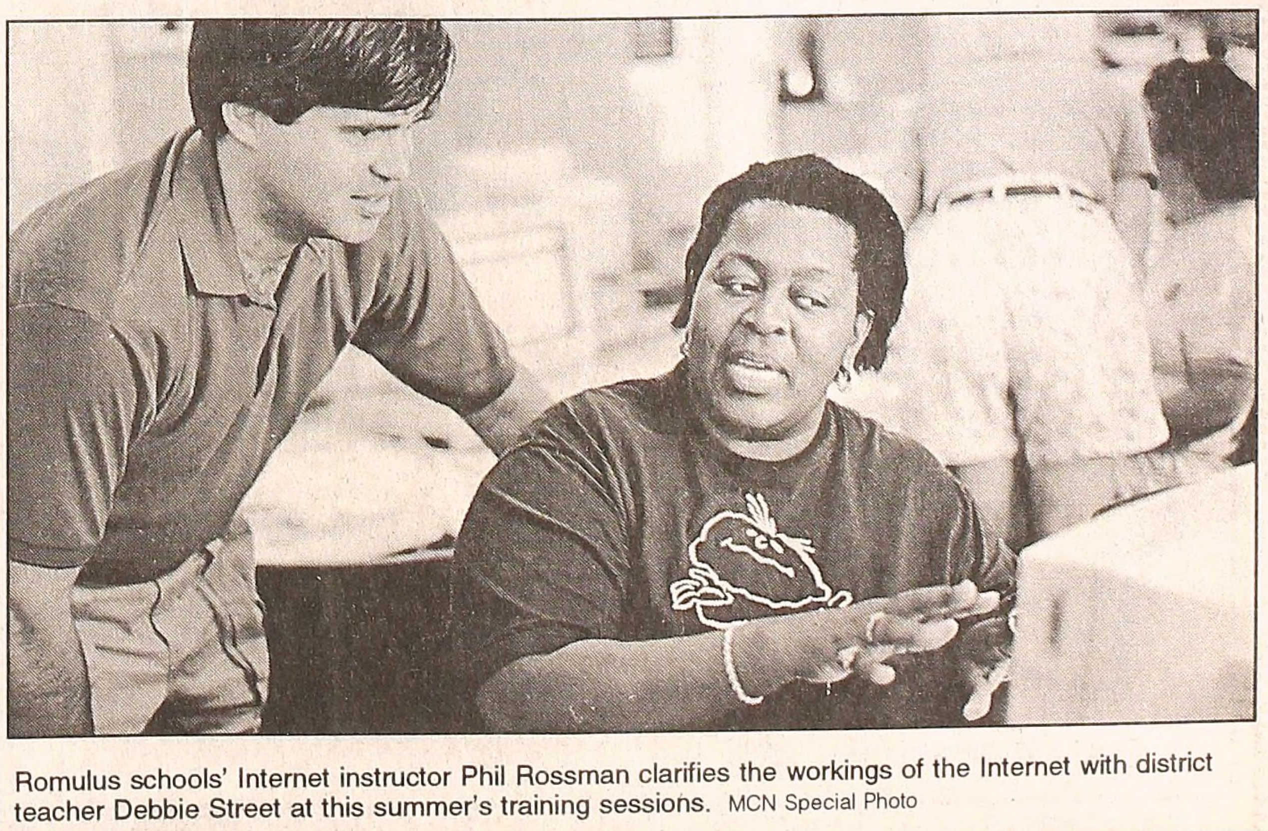
The challenge schools face today is to find ways to integrate internet access to their classroom outcomes.

The first step of the process obviously is staff development.

Rossman said teachers began the summer classes learning what the Internet is, how it can be accessed in classrooms and how it can be used to communicate and research different subjects.

Then the teachers used the software applications commonly associated with the internet, while Rossman demonstrated how teachers could access resources that can be used in classrooms.

The climax of the session was outline how individual teachers could set up a worldwide E Mail address for themselves.



Romulus schools' Internet instructor Phil Rossman clarifies the workings of the Internet with district teacher Debbie Street at this summer's training sessions. MCN Special Photo

By RITA BEDELL
MCN Police Writer

Wayne Fire Reports

The City of Wayne Fire Department reported 2 vehicle fires, 7 "other" fires and 34 rescues during the week of August 17 and August 24.

•

Three separate calls were received in the morning hours of August 8 from a home on Oak Lane.

The first call was a 911 hang-up at 1:29am.

The next call received was for domestic problems at 5:28am in which a warrant arrest was made.

Then the last call from the home was at 7:41am in which a verbal domestic problem was under way. This call resulted in an arrest due to a personal protection order violation.

•

A go-cart was reported stolen from a home in the 43000 block of Crowley on August 8 at 11:27am.

•

A breaking and entering call was received from the 46000 block of Lakevilla on August 8.

•

Police responded to a call for a possible domestic problem in the 41000 block of N. Woodbury on August 8.

•

Clark Gas Station called police to report a person who drove off without paying for their gas purchase.

The call was canceled a few minutes later when the person returned to pay for their purchase.

•

An assault and battery charge was made by a caller from Kirkridge Park on August 9 at 2:50am.

•

Wendy's Restaurant made a report on embezzlement

•

Two more breaking and entering calls were received the weekend of August 7 through 9.

One was from a home on Oak Lane on August 8. The next was from a home on Arthur on August 9.

There was an arrest made at Meijer's on August 9 at 9:13pm due to retail fraud.

Van Buren

An unlucky patron of the Diamondback Saloon left the bar at 1:27pm to find their vehicle had been vandalized.

•

Police were called to the 47000 block of Denton Road to help remove and unwanted guest at the home.

•

Van Buren officers were called on by the Belleville Police to assist in a domestic problem on Carmel.

The assist lead to an arrest due to domestic violence.

•

Pan Handlers tried to make their way up Belleville Road on August 14.

Problem being, patrons of Farmer Jack called police at 11:34 to report them.

Then patrons of Meijer's called at 11:44 to report again.

No arrests were made from either call as they were gone by the time officers arrived.

•

A caller reported a suspicious van in the Haggerty Sub in the afternoon hours of August 14.

Turned out to be a Edison truck.

•

A vehicle was stolen from an unknown location on Sheldon Road on August 14.

•

Girlstown reported an assault and battery on August 14.

•

My reports state a prisoner problem. Evidently at Van Buren Jail. The problem person was transferred to the hospital.

•

Domestic problems sent officers to a home in Parkwood Manor at 9:30pm on August 14.

•

Officers responded to a call of a suicidal person at Archwood Apartments on August 14. After refusal of treatment, officers were left with no choice but to leave the area.

•

Police were called to Parkwood Manor on charges of juveniles drinking alcohol.

•

Garden City Police made an arrest on August 15 for a warrant held in Van Buren.

Officers went to the station and transported the person back to Van Buren facilities.

•

A loud party was reported at a house located east of Bellewoods.

Police responded and broke up the party.

•

An intoxicated person was reported by residents of Kirkridge Park at 5:43am on August 15.

The intoxicated person was taken into protective custody to sober up.

•

Farmer Jack called police to report retail fraud on August 15 at 8:30am.

Citations were issued at the scene.

•

A charge of indecent exposure was made from a location on Sunset on August 15 at 12:54pm.

•

There was a breaking and entering on August 15 at a home in the 11000 block of Beckley.

•

A report was made of an unarmed robbery from the 51000 block of Freedom Way.

•

The owners of Legg's Lounge called officers to report a prostitute in their parking lot.

Officers went to the location, but she was gone before they arrived.

•

A traffic accident at I-94, east of Belleville Road resulted in a drunk driving arrest.

•

A breaking and entering in the 48000 block of the S. Service Drive on August 15 resulted in an arrest.

•

Police rushed to Van Buren Estates to break up a fight at 10pm on August 15, only to arrive and find the fighters gone.

•

A medical emergency from the 51000 block of America resulted in one person being rushed to Beyer for a possible heart attack.

•

An arrest was made at Meijer's on August 16 at 6:46am for retail fraud.

•

Someone called police to report what they believed to be a physical domestic problem in the 41000 block of N. Woodbury.

Officers arrived, made a report due to verbal domestic problems.

•

The Coca-Cola bottling plant reported larceny on August 16 at 2:50pm.

Officers arrived at the plant and made an arrest.

•

A personal protection order held by a resident in the 48000 block of S. Service Drive was violated.

A report was made at the home.

•

Someone called police to report an injured dog in the 8000 block of Belleville Road.

Officers arrived to find a citizen had taken care of the animal.

•

The owners of Sandy's Marina called police to report a suspicious vehicle in their parking lot.

Good call, an arrest was made. The reason was not reported.

•

A warrant arrest was made at I-275 and Michigan Ave. on August 17 at 4:35pm.

•

A rollover accident was reported and transferred to the Michigan State Police. The accident occurred on east bound I-94 and Belleville Road.

•

Two assaults were reported simultaneously on August 17.

The first assault was at Girlstown at 1:33pm. The next was reported from a location on Sumpter Road at 1:40pm.

•

There was a car accident at Rawsonville and Huron River Drive on August 17 at 5:40pm.

•

A noise complaint coming from Lakevilla resulted in a citation being issued on August 17 at 8:00pm.

•

A barking dog complaint was received from a location on Huron River Drive on August 17 at 10:12pm.

The dogs owner was advised and they said they would take care of the problem.

•

Domestic problems sent officers to a home on Denton Road on August 18 at 12:58am.

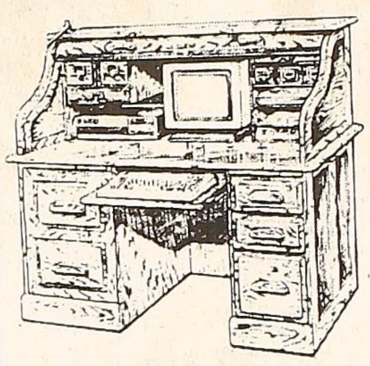
•

A disorderly person was responsible for officers having to go to a location on Belleville Road in the early morning hours of August 18.

•

An arrest was made at Meijer's for retail fraud on August 18 at 8:47pm.

HOME OFFICE - 1/2 OFF!



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Regular Price $18.49

478849 GFS USDA CHOICE
6 oz. Filet of Sirloin Steaks $17.49
Hey, partner! Do you know why they call this sirloin "Choice"? Because this tender cut is the right choice for you!
14 - 6 oz. steaks per 5 lb. box.
Regular Price $19.45

478857 GFS USDA CHOICE
8 oz. Filet of Sirloin Steaks $16.49
Nothin' satisfies a hungry herd of rustlers like these juicy 8 oz. sirloin steaks.
10 - 8 oz. steaks per 5 lb. box.
Regular Price $18.49

603716 GFS
Ground Sirloin Patties $9.99
Rustle up your appetite for these premium all-beef patties! Individually wrapped.
15 - 1/3 lb. patties per 5 lb. box.
Regular Price $11.99

657522 GFS USDA CHOICE
6 oz. Boneless Tenderloin Steaks $21.99
City folk call this cut Filet Mignon, but us everyday folk call it the best of the beef. There's some real good eatin' here!
4 -6 oz. steaks per pack. Regular Price $23.79

160202 ROYAL OAK
Hardwood Charcoal Briquets $4.25
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657506 GFS USDA CHOICE
Center Cut Boneless Strip Steaks $21.49
Now this is what I call a steak! Tender and juicy every time. 4 - 10 oz. steaks. Regular price $24.49

657514 GFS USDA CHOICE
Rib Eye Steaks $13.99
Succulent, juicy and tasty every time. Get out the good china for this steak. 4 - 8 oz. steaks per pack. Regular Price $16.25

PRICES EFFECTIVE AUGUST 31 - SEPT. 6, 1998

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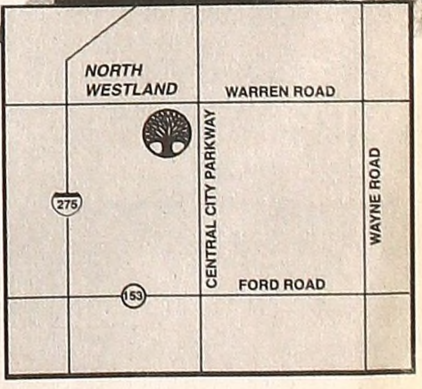

Oakwood
Oakwood Healthcare Center - North Westland
36555 Warren Rd.
Westland, Michigan
48185

ROMULUS PUBLIC LIBRARY
11121 WAYNE ROAD
ROMULUS, MICH. 48174

Service News

Navy Ensign Kurt P. Guidry, whose wife, Kelly is the daughter of Jack and Dorotha Akans of Belleville, recently visited France while on a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf aboard the guided missile destroyer USS Mitscher, homeported in Norfolk, Va.

The 1985 graduate of South Terrebonne High School of Houma, La., joined the Navy in December 1995. Guidry is a 1996 graduate of Auburn University with a BCE degree.

Burglar loots sports card shop

By IVAN HELFMAN
MCN Staff Writer

An alert citizen spotted a burglary in progress at All Star Cards at 30775 Ann Arbor Trail.

Passing by at 5:33 a.m. on August 11, he spotted a man inside the store and called Westland police.

Unfortunately, the burglars moved too fast to be captured. Though it only took police two minutes to respond, the burglar (or burglars) hightailed out of the store before the officers arrived.

In front of the store, the officers saw coins, cards, and broken glass on the sidewalk.

The burglar apparently gained entry by smashing the tall thin window next to the front door.

The store was protected by a portable alarm, but the burglar rendered it useless by unplugging it.

Police called the owner to the store to inventory the stolen goods. He said that the burglar got away with a stereo receiver and cassette deck worth $500 from behind the counter; and $40 in rolled coins, and $20 in one dollar bills from the cash register drawer.

He said the busted window was worth $500.

To try to catch the burglar and recover the booty, police called in a K-9 dog, but the German shepherd was unable to pick up a scent.

There are no suspects.

Adventure Travel Service
382 MAIN ST. • BELLEVILLE
(313) 699-5400

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON OBJECTIONS TO FIRE AND POLICE PROTECTION SPECIAL ASSESSMENT LEVY

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Canton Board of Trustees will hold a Public Hearing pursuant to Public Acts 33 and 181 of 1951, as amended, for the purpose of hearing objections to defraying the expenses of the Fire and Police Protection Districts by a Special Assessment levy to be spread on the tax rolls effective December 1, 1998.

DATE: Tuesday, September 8, 1998
TIME: 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.
PLACE: Canton Township Administration Building
Board Meeting Room
1150 S. Canton Center Road

On May 18, 1976, a Fire Protection Special Assessment Levy was approved by the voters, and at the June 22, 1976 Public Hearing, the Board of Trustees for the Charter Township of Canton unanimously approved the creation of a Fire Protection Special Assessment District for the entire Township.

On August 27, 1977, a Police Protection Special Assessment Levy was approved by the voters, and at the September 13, 1977 Public Hearing, the Board of Trustees for the Charter Township of Canton approved the creation of a Police Protection Special Assessment District for the entire Township.

The 1999 estimated Fire and Police budgets submitted by the Public Safety Director and the Administration are as follows:

FIRE DEPARTMENT		POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Salaries & O/T	$2,441,454	Salaries & O/T	$4,473,699
Fringe Benefits	1,203,165	Fringe Benefits	1,961,039
Captial Outlay	270,711	Captial Outlay	249,180
Operations	550,262	Operations	1,424,987
Bond Debt Service	212,063	Bond Debt Service	70,688
Total	$4,677,655	Total	$8,179,593

The proposed millage rates are as follows:

	1997	P.A.S. Limit	1998	Increase (Decrease) over 1997...
Fire Millage	3.0915	N/A	3.0915	0.0000
Police Millage	5.1508	N/A	5.1508	0.0000
Charter Millage	1.1100	1.0814	1.1100	0.0000
Total	9.3523		9.3523	0.0000

The Charter Millage is more than what the Township could levy under P.A.S. 1982 (Truth in Taxation). The property tax Charter Millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed 1999 General Fund budget will be a subject of this hearing.

This notice published by: Charter Township of Canton
1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, Michigan 48188
(313) 397-1000

Publish: August 27, 1998

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN, WAYNE COUNTY
Ordinance #721.98

Second reading of ordinance for adoption.

The Charter Township of Van Buren ordains that the Code of Ordinances, Charter Township of Van Buren, Michigan, is hereby amended by adding a section to be numbered Article 5, Section 83-101, et seq., Municipal Violations Bureau.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN ORDAINS:

Section 83-101. Definitions

Section 83-102. Authority of Division

Section 83-103. Appointment of Offices

Section 83-104. Duties.

Section 83-105. Fine Money; Reception; Accounting

Section 83-106. Fine Schedule

Section 83-107. Repeal

Section 83-108. Savings Clause

Section 83-109. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall be effective upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting called and held on the 18th day of August, 1998.

YEAS: Herman, Rochowiak, Foster, King, Budd, Clark and Herman.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: None.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance.

Cindy C. King, Township Clerk
Helen Foster, Supervisor

Adoption: August 18, 1998
Publish: August 27, 1998
Effective: August 27, 1998

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

On Tuesday, September 1, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing to consider the suspension of applications for review, approval, or consideration of Industrial, Commercial, and some Residential Development in the township for a period of 182 days. A copy of the Resolution authorizing the suspension is available for review in the Township Clerk's Office.

The public hearing will be held in the Board Room at Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations will be made available with advanced notice.

Cindy C. King
Township Clerk

Publish: August 27, 1998

NOTICE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Van Buren Township Board of Zoning Appeals will hold its regular meeting on **Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 8, 1998.** The following appeal(s), variance(s) or exceptions(s) will be discussed:

ITEM #1

MR. GEORGE HAGADORN OF 771 S. VENOY, WESTLAND, MI AND OWNER OF 13157 ORMOND DRIVE IS SEEKING A DIMENSIONAL VARIANCE FORM THE SCHEDULE OF REGULATIONS, ARTICLE XVII OF THE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE, AND SECTION 5.07 NONCONFORMING SITE REQUIREMENTS. HE IS REQUESTING CONSIDERATION TO REDUCE THE REQUIRED 30' FRONT YARD SETBACK TO 158'. MR. HAGADORN WISHES TO CONSTRUCT A GARAGE ADDITION TO THE FRONT OF THE HOME.

ITEM #2

BETHANY BIBLE CHURCH, 810 EAST HURON RIVER DRIVE, IS REQUESTING RELIEF FROM SECTION 6.01, OFF STREET PARKING, OF THE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF REQUIRED PARKING STALLS TO OPERATE A DAY CARE FACILITY BY TWENTY FIVE.

ITEM #3

GREENBERG FARROW OF SHAUMBERG, IL. AS REPRESENTATIVE FOR HOME DEPOT U.S.A., REQUESTS THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS CONSIDER AND ALLOW TWO VARIANCE FROM THE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCES. THEY ARE:

1. SECTION 20.300.120.4 TO INCREASE THE ALLOWABLE EXTERIOR SIGNAGE BY 418 SQUARE FEET.

2. SECTION 20.480A.11.C.1 TO DECREASE THE REQUIRED PARKING BY 68 SPACES.

The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Belleville, MI 48111. Any persons having any interest in, or wishing to make comments regarding any of the above subjects, should attend the meeting or submit any written comments to the Department of Developmental Services by 5:00 p.m. on the meeting date.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations can be made available with advance notice.

Cindy C. King, CMC, Clerk
Charter Township of Van Buren

Publish: August 27, 1998

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 18, 1998

Supervisor Foster called the meeting to order in the Board Room at 7:32 p.m. Present: Foster, King, Budd, Clark, Hart, Herman and Rochowiak. Absent and excused. None. Others in attendance: Community Services Director Long, Director of Water/Sewer Operations Payton, Deputy Director of Public Safety - Fire Division Smolen, Secretary Ireland and an audience of approximately 35.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion King, support Clark to approve the agenda with one addition and one amendment. To add New Business Item #4, Consider the attorney's recommendation regarding case #96-648964 NZ (referencing: a. August 17, 1998 letter from the attorney and, b. August 18, 1998 letter from the attorney) and clarify that the voucher list includes August 14, 1998 and August 18, 1998. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

MINUTES: Motion King, support Clark to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of July 20, 1998 with one amendment that the last item number under New Business be corrected to reflect 5 (not 4). Carried.

Motion Rochowiak, support Herman to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 21, 1998 as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Officer DeVos advised that 114 children attended "Camp with a Cop" on August 14, 15 and 16, 1998. He thanked the business owners, Township Board, township employees, police officers and civilian volunteers who helped to make it an overwhelming success. Boys and girls bicycles (with helmets) were presented to the winners of the raffle which was held at camp. An audience member expressed his appreciation for the public safety department and the program.

As a result of a Target Eight Coalition Grant, the Van Buren Police Department and Parks and Recreation Department will host "Cops and Rec" from August 24 through August 27, 1998. For information call 699-8921.

Also, in conjunction with the City of Belleville, the Van Buren Police Department will host a computer camp from August 24 through August 28, 1998. For information call the City of Belleville at 699-2710 or Van Buren Police at 699-8930.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Motion Clark, support Rochowiak to approve the second reading of General Ordinance 7-21-98 Municipal Violations Bureau. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Herman, Rochowiak, Foster, King, Budd, Clark and Hart. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried.

(*A synopsis of the ordinance follows the minutes. The ordinance is also available for review in the Clerk's Office, 46425 Tyler Rd., Belleville, MI during regular business hours Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

NEW BUSINESS: Motion Hart, support Budd to adopt Resolution 98-32 Downriver Sewage Disposal System as presented. Carried.

Motion King, support Rochowiak to approve Resolution 98-33, Adoption of Fines and Fees for Municipal Violations in conformity with the 34th District Court as presented. Carried.

Motion Clark, support King to appoint Treasurer Budd as Municipal Violations Bureau Director. Carried.

Motion Herman, support Hart to reject the recommendation of the township attorney in his letter dated August 17, 1998 for case #96-648964 NZ. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Budd, Hart, Herman, Rochowiak and Foster. Nays: King and Clark. Absent: None. Carried.

Motion Hart to reject the recommendation of the township attorney in his letter dated August 18, 1998 for case #96-648964 NZ. Motion died due to lack of support.

Motion Clark, support King to approve the recommendation of the township attorney in his letter dated August 18, 1998 for case #96-648964 NZ. Roll Call_Vote: Yeas: Budd, Clark, Herman, Rochowiak, Foster and King. Nays: Hart. Absent: None. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Motion Budd, support King to approve the August 4, 1998 voucher list as presented and approve the August 18, 1998 voucher list as amended to include payment to Wayne County Division of Roads for calcium chloride. Carried.

REPORTS: Supervisor Foster ordered the June 1998 Public Safety Report and July 1998 Budgetary Report received and filed.

Deputy Director Smolen on behalf of the Public Safety Department expressed their thanks to the Board of Trustees, Public Safety Committee, CHIPS Committee and all those that supported and worked for the renewal of the Public Safety Millage. He also thanked the citizens of Van Buren Township by showing their overwhelming support for the services provided by the men and women of the Department of Public Safety.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Taxes may be paid, without penalty, at the Township Hall during regular business hours or left in the drop box located in the Public Safety Department after 5:00 p.m. Comerica and NBD banks are also accepting payment. The drop box is available 24 hours a day for both tax and water bill payments.

The new electronic voting equipment used for the August 4 Primary Election received favorable response and the election ran smoother, faster and more efficiently.

"Wayne County - The Artists Among Us" Exhibition will be held at the Van Buren Township Hall September 10 - October 2, 1998. The exhibits will be hung in the hallways of Township Hall and the artists will be competing for awards.

Gymnastics, Tae Kwon Do, Babysitter's Club, Aerobics, Line Dancing Ballroom Dance Socials, Mask Puppet Theatre and Holiday Fun Craft classes will be held at the Township Community Center. For information call 699-8921.

Fall Kickoff. EMU -vs- N. Iowa will be September 3, 1998 at Rynearson Stadium. The bus will leave the high school parking lot at 5:00 p.m. For information call 699-8921.

16th Annual "Midnight Cruisers" Rod and Custom Car Show 3 day Swap Meet will be held August 28 through August 30, 1998 at the Van Buren Township Park.

AUDIENCE: (Non-Agenda Items): None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion Rochowiak, support Herman to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Foster, CMFA
Township Supervisor

Cindy C. King, CMC
Township Clerk

Publish: August 27, 1998

Head Start draws pupils from all over

Head Start Full Day pupils from near and far attend the YWCA sponsored at the West Mound Methodist Church in Taylor. Located across Eureka Road from the Southland Shopping Center, the site is convenient for parents from Westland to Wyandotte, who are employed in the area.

"We serve families from many Downriver and western Wayne County Communities in addition to children from Taylor and Dearborn," said Head Start Director Tina Doyen.

"We have a full day program here. Parents can drop thier youngsters off on their way to work and pick them up at the end of the work day."

The YWCA Head Start is free to working families or parents attending school who are income eligible. The program is open weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"Children are here for a minimum of six hours each day,'' said teacher Kathy Cholette. "We have a full day of play and activities plus lunch and an afternoon snack."

Cholette noted that the facility has living room and kitchen play areas, which are equipped with child-size kitchen appliances, sofas and tables that are just the right size for three and four year olds.

Between 7:30 and 9 a.m., youngsters arrive at the site, which is located 22395 Eureka Road.

"They start the day with a free play period, and at 9:30 a.m. they break up into groups and gather in one of three rooms- Fish, Frog or Bear where they do group projects," Cholette said. "At 10:20, they all gather together and if the weather permits they plan outside until noon."

"The Head Start fenced-in play area features several pint-sized play houses and two small kiddie pools plus various items of play equipment," the director said.

"After a full morning of play, the children are ready for lunch at noon and a nap. There is additional play time and a snack is served in the late afternoon. While they wait for their parents to pick them up, there's time to do puzzles, listen to stories or play with toys," she said.

Additional information about the YWCA Full Day Head Start program is available by calling 734-287-3179.

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Receive up to $2,000 for college

Students at Henry Ford Community College can train for a career in a high-wage, high-demand field and may be eligible to receive up to $2,000 toward educational expenses, thanks to the new Governor's Career Scholarship.

The program is a statewide effort led by Gov. Engler to help Michigan employers find skilled workers to meet the needs of a booming economy. HFCC has more than 800 full- and part-time scholarships to offer this fall. Each scholarship will pay 50 percent of the cost of training, to a maximum of $2,000, Scholarships will be awarded on merit, not financial need, Scholarship money can be used to pay for tuition, fees, books and supplies,

Scholarships are available to qualified students enrolled in selected associate degree or certificate programs, including: computer information systems, geographic information systems, electronics, robotics, computerized numerical control, manufacturing engineering, computerized drafting, apprentice training., architecture construction technology, automotive service technology, energy technology, instrument and control technology, emergency medical technology, physical therapist assistant, radiology technology, surgical technology, registered nursing and pharmacy technician.

Belleville students make MSU honors list

Belleville:

Arman Forouzannia, majoring in LBS-Human Biology

Amy Johnson, majoring in Psychology

Steven Johnson, majoring in Packaging

Jamie Mercer, majoring in Zoology

Christopher Mueller, majoring in Landscape Architecture

Canton:

Sara Anderson, majoring in Phys Ed and Exercise Science

Nicole Arnold, majoring in Dietetics

Julie Bak, majoring in Hospitality Business

Heidi Balatico, majoring in Spanish

Stacey Beck, majoring in General Business Admin

Anne Britz, majoring in Supply Chain Management

Jennifer Bryan, majoring in Advertising

Justin Buchhop, majoring in Chemical Engineering

Michelle Butske, majoring in Accounting

Kathryn Chamberlain, majoring in History of Art

Marie Cini, majoring in Child Development

Laura Circella, majoring in Child Development

Brian Confer, majoring in General Business Admin

Janet Confer, majoring in Nursing

Jennifer Connelly, majoring in Audiology and Speech Sciences

Melissa Delong, majoring in Education

Xuan Do, majoring in Supply Chain Management

John Donahue, No Preference

Andrew Feierfeil, majoring in Supply Chain Management

Jeffrey Fliss, majoring General Business Admin

Stephanie Frye, majoring in Advertising

Courtney Garrett, majoring in Family Community Services

Lora Hanson, majoring in Preveterinary

Andrea Hartlund, majoring in English

Matthew Hucal, majoring in General Business Admin

Brian Jansen, majoring in Accounting

Barbara Karenko, majoring in Intr Stdy Soc Sci-Health Stdy

Nancy Kindraka, majoring in Chemical Engineering

Kevin Kovachevich, majoring in Finance

Karen Kowalski, majoring in Animal Science

Melissa Kraydich, No Preference

Bryon Labumbard, majoring in Accounting

Amy Lagrow, majoring in General Business Admin

Marc Levitt, majoring in Political Science-Prelaw

Jennifer Lyons, majoring in Natural Science-No Preference

Stephanie Massucci, majoring in General Business Admin

Christopher Mazur, majoring in Chemical Engineering

Lawrence Morris, majoring in General Business Admin

Ann Peruski, majoring in Preveterinary

Nicole Pomaranski, majoring in Studio Art

Rebecca Pratt, majoring in Botany and Plant Pathology

Todd Price, majoring in Electrical Engineering

Kyle Pund, majoring in Psychology

Michael Ratkewicz, majoring in Intr Stdy Soc Sci-Envir Policy

Marcus Sanborn, majoring in Pol Theory and Constructional Dem

Heather Schafer, majoring in Dietetics

Scott Schopieray, majoring in English

Michelle Smith, majoring in Journalism

Colleen Springer, majoring in Advertising

Erica Stevens, majoring in Family and Consumer Resources

Kelly Sturgill, majoring in Studio Art

Jessica Turza, majoring in Linguistics

Michele Vanootighem, majoring in Psychology

Wendy Vea, majoring in Special Ed-Deaf Education

Kristi Wade, majoring in Physiology

Alan Wilson, majoring in Human Biology

Danielle Wren, majoring in Home Economics

Michelle Ziewacz, majoring in Environmental Studies and Applications

Daniel Zoltowski, majoring in Hospitality Business

Romulus:

Dawn Hoinka, majoring in Zoology

Hollie Hudson, majoring in Psychology

Linda Lehman, majoring in Accounting

Markeeta West, majoring in Intr Stdy Soc Sci-Health Stdy

Westland:

Andrea Brunette, majoring in Audiology and Speech Science

Alison Domzalski, majoring in Natural Science-No Preference

Jacqueline Garcia, majoring in Hospitality Business

Dereth Glance, majoring in Pol Theory and Constitutional Dem

Rebecca Herbert, majoring in Urban and Regional Planning

Melissa Hill, majoring in Psychology

Barbara Kellner, majoring in Zoology

Nicholas Mcgowan, majoring in LBS-No Coordinate Major

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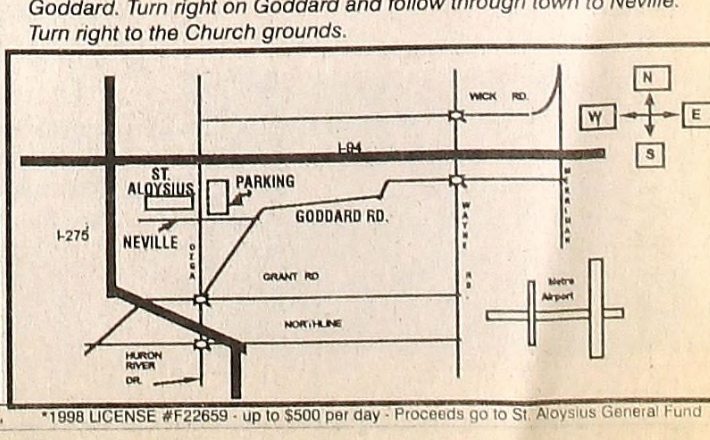

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People in the news

MICHIGAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

June West appointed top spokesperson for Geoffrey Fieger race

By AL POST
MCN Staff Writer

With Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara's re-election all but assured, McNamara's key spokesperson June West has now been donated to the campaign of Democratic gubernatorial candidate Geoffrey Fieger.

West's appointment as Fieger's campaign voice is coupled with a "leave of absence" from the McNamera administration, she revealed Monday morning. What happens after the election whether Fieger wins or loses is now up in the air.

But West admits, "I loved my Wayne County job."

West, 41, has served as McNamara's spokeswoman for the past two and a half years.

The appointment gave wavering Democratic leaders in Wayne County the knowledge that McNamara is totally behind Fieger's campaign to unseat Gov. John Engler.

The naming of West also reportedly was part of a deal to get McNamara backed Jennifer Granholm on the Demo ballot this fall as candidate for attorney general.

Another Wayne County Dem on the possible attorney general candidate list is County Sheriff Robert Ficano -- hardly a member of the McNamara team.

Fieger said adding West to his team was a double plus -- "getting a qualified person and a woman to fill the job...she fits two bills."

The former voice of SMART bus programs, admits joining Fieger is like getting on a "train moving at 120 miles an hour."

But she feels her new boss is a "great guy" and she joined his staff when he was "taking a beating from the press and Republicans. They were using half truths and sometimes worse half statements against Geoff."

Volunteers wishing to join the Fieger team should call 248-557-9400, West said. Calling after midnight or so will connect the caller with a taped line.

Since taking her leave last week, Carol Hopkins has been named as McNamara's interim top voice. She can be reached by calling 224-5454.

June West

Hopkins also will continue in her role as public information officer for the Wayne County Health and Community Services Department. Her immediate superior in that role is Assistant County Executive Cassandra Smith-Gray.

Prior to joining county government, Hopkins served for seven years as senior editor of the *Detroit Monthly*.

People you know

By AL POST
MCN Staff Writer

Diane J. Fritz, Westland City Clerk, has been accepted as a member in the Academy for Advanced Education of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC).

The academy is the professional body of municipal clerks, who have continued their level of educational achievement beyond the attainment of the prestigious Certified Municipal Clerk Award.

To date approximately 14 percent of the 10,000 members have qualified for the academy status.

Fritz also is active in the Michigan Municipal Clerks Association, Michigan Diabetes Campaign, Zoning Ordinance Task Force, Winterfest Committee and has been nominated for the ATHENA Award.

She has been active with the IIMC since 1978.

•

Author and scientist Stephen Jay Gould will speak at two symposiums in September at the Wayne State University's Community Arts Auditorium.

At 3 p.m. Sept. 16 Gould will speak to an academic community on *Concepts of Time*. It will be followed by a question and answer period.

At 7:30 that night, Gould will present a general interest lecture on *The Face of Evolution and the Politics of Creationism.*

The public is invited to both free forums.

He has written such books as: *The Spread of Excellence from Plato to Darwin; The Mismeasure of Man; Dinosaur in a Haystack: Reflections in Natural History.*

For more information call the graduate school at 313-577-8050.

•

Army Pvt. **David J. Williams**, son of Wanda L. Lewis of Westland, has entered basic military training at Fort Jackson, S.C.

His father, David A. Williams resides in Ypsilanti. Williams is a 1966 graduate of Ypsilanti High School.

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Mayor Oakley is cited on his 68th birthday

By AL POST
MCN Staff Writer

Romulus city employees surprised Mayor William Oakley last week with a pot luck luncheon in honor of his 68th birthday.

The event, which followed the weekly directors' meeting, filled the council chamber with friends, family and countless city employees, who stopped by during their lunch breaks to join the festivities.

City workers presented Oakley with two birthday gifts, a wristwatch and a donation to his favorite charity -- The Mayor's Task Force on Substance Abuse.

Mayor William Oakley

Roehrig elected chairman of United Way directors

By AL POST
MCN Staff Writer

Lawrence A. Roehrig, secretary-treasurer of Michigan Council 25 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, has been elected chairman of the board of directors of the United Way of Michigan.

Roehrig of Flint was first elected to the board in 1979 and served as first vice president from 1996-98.

He received the 1998 Joseph A. Beirne Community Services Award presented by the United Way of America in Atlanta last April.

He formerly served as senior appraiser for the Finance Department of the city of Flint.

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1999 MODEL INTRODUCTION
AUGUST 28TH, 29TH, 30TH

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VISIT THE MONEY Chamber 30 seconds to grab your down payment on any '98 product.

Friday, August 28th

Food & Refreshments Dogs, Snowcones, Popcorn & Pop Demo Rides in the Latest and Greatest R.V.'s in the Business ENTER TO WIN!!! One of Two 25" Color T.V.'s or 1 week free rental of a motor home!

★ WYCD YOUNG COUNTRY with Linda Lee Live Call in Young Country Stock Car on Fri. between 4 p.m. & 6 p.m.
• Meet Members of the 1998 Detroit Tigers 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Call for Details
★ Joe Kocur of the 1998 Stanley Cup Champion Red Wings on hand to sign autographs & be in dunktank 4-6 p.m.
• Tiger Tickets to an up-coming game on Friday between 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
★ Live Oldies Music 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. by Larados. (The Deacons' of Doo-Wop Formerly the Reflections)
• Live Remote by WKOL 107.1 FM Friday 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. with DJ Marie Maskol

We have it all! Saturday, August 29th We have it all!

★ Pancake Breakfast 9 a.m. - noon. Donations to Dare
• BUTTERFLY the CLOWN on Saturday 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
• Pony Rides & Petting Zoo for the Kids Noon til 3 p.m.
• Moon Walk 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
• W4 Country Live remote from Noon to 2 p.m.
• Live Oldies & Blues Music 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. by Elvis Ash & Elvis Law
★ Charity Dunk Tank for DARE with Former Lions Quarterback Eric Hipple in tank and sign autographs

Sunday, August 30th

• Amusement Rides for the kids
• Double Manufactures Rebate Checks

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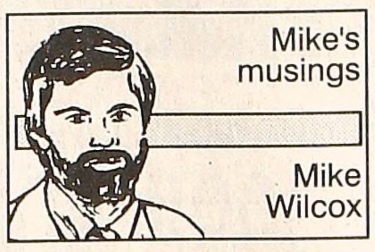
Do what it takes to prevent strike



Saturday six-thousand Northwest Airlines pilots are expected to officially "go on strike," virtually shutting down air transportation in Detroit and surrounding suburbs.

This didn't have to happen. Pilots have been threatening to strike for endless months. Saturday signals the end of a 30-day "cooling off" period during which time negotiations were to take place at a feverish pace. It didn't happen. Instead both sides have dug a deeper trench and have no intentions of giving in.

Management at Northwest seems to hang its hat on President Clinton's intervention. In other words they expect the President to step in and announce a 60-day hold on a strike as he and others attempt to negotiate a settlement. Governor John Engler is a strong proponent of this, but the Michigan congressional delegation is vocally urging Clinton to stay out of it.

I think both sides and the government should be doing everything they can to settle this strike. Here are several reasons why Detroit does not need another strike at this time:

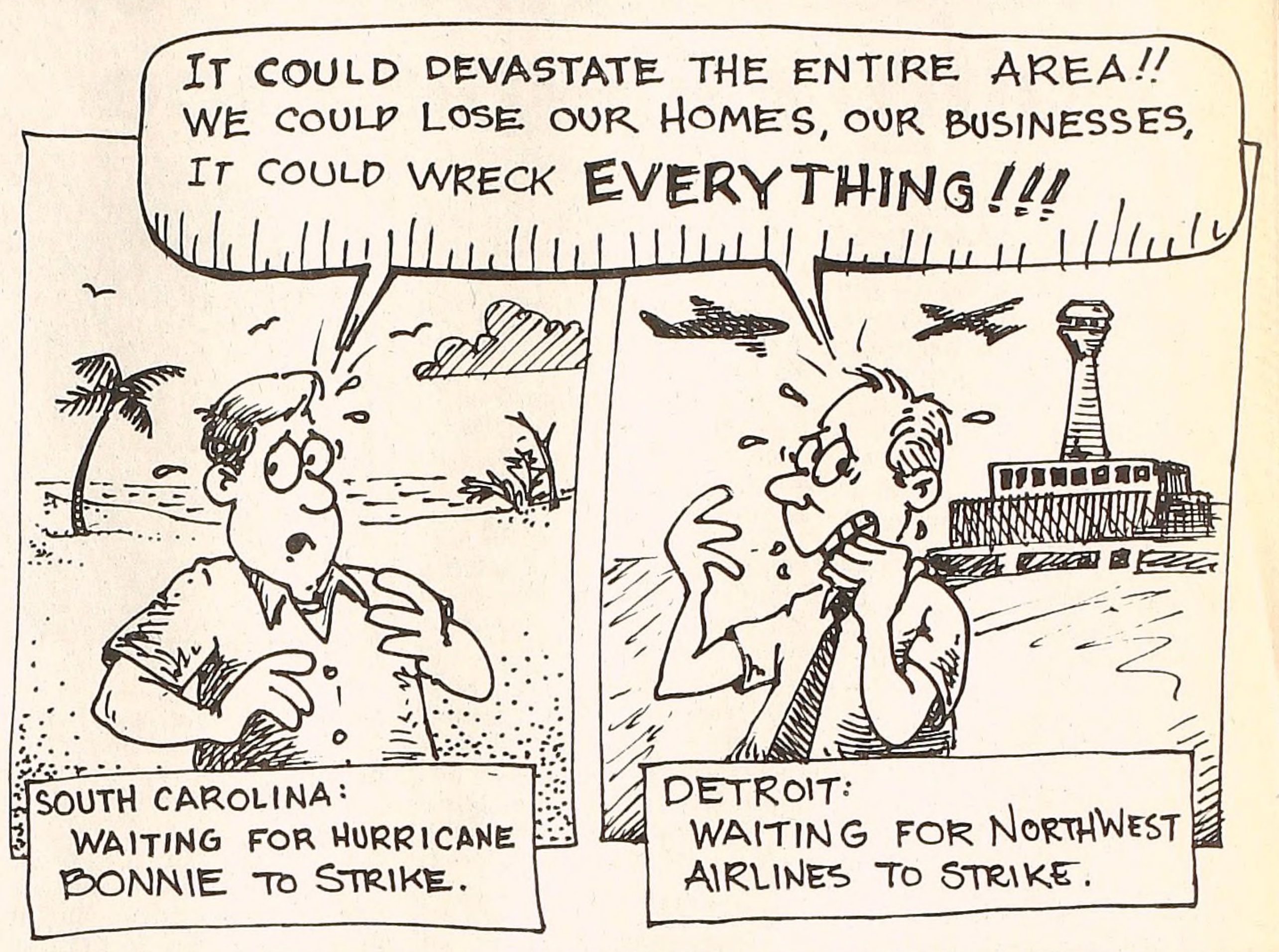
1. The hub and spoke system that airlines currently operate under has made Northwest in control of eighty percent of the flights at Detroit Metro. A strike would make it nearly impossible for many business people and travelers to get in and out of Detroit. And we thought that was a problem with the incessant delays travelers must now endure with Northwest running at full tilt. Just wait!

2. Northwest's reputation and ability to do business has been severely hampered by their inability to operate efficiently. At or nearly last in all efficiency reports, Northwest has been fighting an uphill public relations battle to convince Detroit area officials that they are doing all they can to get flights in and out of Detroit safely and on time. The strike will only make matters worse.

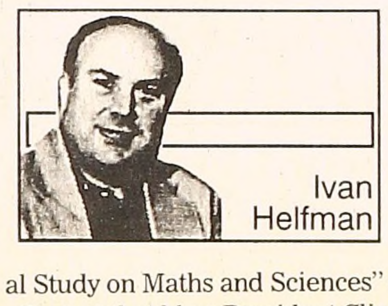
3. A long strike could potentially impact the 2001 opening of the massive mid-field terminal Northwest is building at Metro. This structure as well as numerous improvements to the rest of the airport supposedly will make Detroit a showplace for domestic and international travelers. A strike could put this project on hold.

4. Then there is the damage to the local economy, slowly recovering from a short, but costly GM strike. A Northwest study claims a strike would have a negative impact in dollars of $700 million in the first ten days. That's only ten days. Disturbing reports have indicated both pilots and Northwest expect a protracted, up to 300-day strike. Just think what that would do to local businesses that are dependent upon Northwest?

Let's hope cooler heads prevail and the work stoppage ends before it gets started. The airport and Northwest have more important things to worry about at this juncture. For instance, many travelers are wary about potential security threats. Clinton's retaliatory missile strikes in to Afghanistan and Sudan will certainly set off new attempts by renegade Islamic billionaire bin Laden and his network of terrorists to strike back. Detroit Metro with its many international flights might be a target. With this threat in the air it's bad timing for a strike.



No logical reason to lengthen school year



Education is the most frustrating subject to write about because few people can discuss it rationally.

The state Department of Education's decision to eventually extend the year by 10 days is the latest example of basing an important decision on a flimsy whim.

First the decision. According to Tuesday's *Detroit News:*

"The state Department of Education requires all public schools to add 10 days to the school year by 2006. And meeting the annual goals – which include adding as many as 50 school hours in one year – has complicated contract talks, tortured schedules and created a convoluted formula that ties the hours a child is in school to inflation."

Why? Again according to Tuesday's *Detroit News:*

"Supporters of more classroom time say American students lag behind students in other countries, who historically outperform U.S. students on performance tests. But some education experts doubt measures such as Michigan's will help students that much unless they are combined with other efforts."

To explain this point, the *News* drags up someone who points out that the school years in Germany and Japan are longer.

Usually that's enough to make the public and educational policy makers starry-eyed. Problem is, while it's correct that German students spend more time in school than American students, German students perform worse on international tests.

Here's how *The Economist* reported the German students scores on the "Third International Study on Maths and Sciences" -- the test that blew President Clinton's whig.

"The Germans, in turn, were shocked by their pupils' mediocre performance in the tests. Their pupils did only slightly better than the English at maths, coming 23rd out of 41 countries. In science, the English surged ahead (though not the Scots) while the Germans were beaten by, among others, the Dutch, the Russians–and even the Americans."

The Japanese students only scored well at math.

In fact, results from the study showed that time spent studying has nothing to do with performance. *The Economist* said:

"A popularly-held view has it that "opportunity to learn" is the key to educational success–ie, the more time children spend on a subject, the better they do at it. Alas, the evidence so far is not encouraging for the proponents of this theory. Taking the twelve countries which both took part in and also had their average teaching hours measured in the recent study of school management, there seems little correlation between time spent on a subject and performance of pupils in tests. Young Austrians spend exceptionally long hours on maths and science lessons; for them, it pays off in higher test scores. But so do New Zealand's teenagers -- and they do not do any better than, say, Norwegians, who spend an unusually short time on lessons in both subjects."

In other words, the longer school year will have little to with improving student performance.

So what will? Of all the changes, what works best in the world's schools?

Funny that nobody in the public school system ever asks, but the answer, according to the *The Economist's* story, is teaching methods. Common factors appear in top scoring countries, including:

"Much more time is spent on the basics of arithmetic than on more general mathematical topics such as handling data; Pupils learn to do sums in their heads before they are taught to do them on paper; calculators are usually banned; Standardized teaching manuals, which are tested extensively in schools before being published, are used widely; A method known as 'whole-class interactive teaching' is used widely. The teacher addresses the whole class at once, posing questions to pupils in turn, to ensure they are following the lesson. . . . Finally, great efforts are made to ensure that pupils do not fall behind. Those that do are given extra coaching."

If you haven't notice, these methods are all out of favor in Michigan schools, thanks to the Department of Education, which isn't concerned with what works.

It's more interested in experimenting with unproven solutions on our children, who are apparently thought of as guinea pigs.

Thanks a Million

WEEKLY SYNDICATED COLUMN by PERCY ROSS

Millionaire Percy Ross is known for his philanthropic work. He offers help and encouragement for those in need. He has earned a fortune and a wealth of knowledge during his lifetime and wants to share both. His motto: *" He who gives while he lives... also knows where it goes. "*

Ahoy, Matey! How Are Your Sea Legs?

Dear Mr. Ross: I am 84 years old, hale and healthy. I exist on Social Security and a small veteran's pension from injuries sustained in WWII. I have practically no spending money. Several months ago I was given a large boat that was badly in need of repair. I've been working on it every day since, having scraped and painted both inside and out. I have done plumbing, electrical and carpentry work, plus minor repairs to the motors.

Why? To take people on short cruises to make a little extra money, so I can buy my grandchildren some presents and take my wife to a nice restaurant. I need just $400 to get a captain's license, finish the head and buy a pump for the fresh water supply, plus a boat license. You, Sir, are the only one I thought who might help me. P. S. I promise to take children free of charge if accompanied by their parent.

Mr. L A. ... *Herald-Tribune*, Sarasota, FL

Dear Captain A.: Full steam ahead, matey– your requested $400 is on the way! Aye, your request is a little unusual, but I've been bitten with your entrepreneurial spirit at age 84. And as long as you don't plan on having a lady friend in each port, you'll probably be a sea-fairing captain 'til age 104. Best wishes!

Dear Mr. Ross: I can't remember at what point things got so out of hand. My 32 year old daughter is the gravest disappointment in life. Her addiction to drugs has cost me nearly everything, including my sanity. The only bright spot is her 14 year old son, my grandson, who has been living with me for 6 months. How he has been able to endure has been an inspiration to me.

I'm a widow and exist on next to nothing. And still, my grandson is so appreciative to have a warm place to sleep, clean clothes and 3 decent meals a day. I want to reward him so I humbly request your help. A mountain bike, pair of new shoes, warm jacket and good gloves for this winter is what I seek. It's time he has a little pride.

Mrs. I. H. ... *Free Press*, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Dear Mrs. H.: Why is it that some kids who have so little, actually have so much more than other kids who have it all? I'm reminiscent of myself at that age, a son of a junk dealer and all I owned was raw ambition and determination. The rest is history. My cheque in Canadian dollars totalling $600 is on the way. If history truly repeats itself, let it begin to unfold into yet another success story.

Dear Mr. Ross: Over a year ago I met a wonderful guy online. We have grown to love one another dearly. My mother even likes him and that's a good sign because she never really cared for any of my past boyfriends. The problem is he lives in New York and I currently live in Tennessee. We've talked about me relocating to New York, but before I make the move we would like to meet. I just graduated from college so neither of us has the money to travel.

I'm not sure what the total cost will be for me, but I was wondering if you would send me $800. If you would do this, we will be indebted to you forever for bringing us together.

Miss A. R. ... *Free Press*, Chattanooga, TN

Dear Miss R.: I'm not exactly internet savvy, but I'm smart enough not to send a young gal to New York alone, to meet someone who you've only e-mailed for a year. Oh what a tangled web we weave, when first we go online to deceive. I'm not saying your boyfriend is less than honorable, but a meeting in Tennessee with parental supervision (on his nickel) would make me feel much better.

Editor's note: Check your local radio station for Percy Ross' call of the day and visit his web site at www.thanksamillion.com

Write Percy Ross, P.O. Box 39000-B, Minneapolis, MN 55439. Include your phone number and the name of this publication. All letters are read. Only a few are answered in this column; others may be acknowledged privately.

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Letters from our readers

Public reaction to scandal wags the dog

To the editor:

Were the recent US missile attacks on Afghanistan and the Sudan motivated by cynical "wag-the-dog" political considerations? I say yes. Here's why:

Something drastic happened to President Clinton during his recent vacation to Martha's Vineyard. Supposedly, he was there to reclaim his private life and renew his marriage.

But, meanwhile, the Clinton presidency was swirling dangerously in the toilet bowl of public opinion. Pundits were having a field days with "the dress," the DNA and the symbolism of "Monica's tie." Clearly something had to be done. And quick.

The missile attacks were supposedly planned for some time. But, if so, why did the president have to "rush back" to Washington alone to announce them? Why go on vacation at all if a major policy initiative is planned? Very strange indeed.

We are told that the targets were chosen because attacks on Americans were "imminent." Yet,

See **LETTERS**, page A-7

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More Letters

MICHIGAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

Letters

Continued from page A-6

the pharmaceutical plant that was bombed was alleged to be producing, at best, only "precursor chemicals" for terrorist weapons. And, the rebel tent city that was bombed was in the remote wilds of Afghanistan. Clearly, these targets were "opportunistic" and not "imminent" threats to our interest.

Finally, the attacks could not have come at a worse time for the global economy which was already on the verge of a destabilizing collapse. To disrupt the global political equilibrium at the very time that key world economies in Asia, Latin American and especially Russia were in dire straits was the ultimate act of wag-the-dog cynicism.

Strangely, none of our allies were notified of the attacks in advance - not even through diplomatic channels. Not England, not Germany, not France.

My God! What a crap shoot! Historians will find Clinton's hurried speech at the White House announcing the attacks to be textbook "wag-the-dog." Even attacks on the Pope and a some hoky top-secret terrorist summit conference were thrown in for good measure.

If this is what the Clinton Presidency has degenerated down to --- I'm ready for Al Gore in the White House.

Clinton's next presidential speech should be his resignation.

Walter Warren
Westland

Gov. Fieger's ego will drive him to court

To the editor:

For many years the concept of a part-time or Unicameral government in Lansing ohas been pursued by progressives in Michigan. Each effort to accomplish this has been "cut-off at the pass" by incumbent legislators. Now, with the nomination of Geoffrey Fieger for governor, we have the prospect of a long-sought adoption.

Considering the current salary for governor of $127,300 per year, a sum that Mr. Fieger can collect in just one lawsuit, the ego-engine driving Mr. Fieger will direct him to the courts more often than the chambers in Lansing. This could be the start of our part-time or Unicameral government in Lansing at last, but, at what a cost!!

Anthony B. Brehler, aka Grumpy

Does Sen. Bennett pamper polluters

To the editor:

As I headed west on I-94 from Metro Airport last Saturday, I viewed a large billboard for Senator Loren Bennett proclaiming he was ... "Making Michigan Cleaner". If the gentleman Senator simply means that he cleans his teeth daily, that's fine. But, if he is referring to his duties as Chairman of the Senate's Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee which oversees the D.E.Q. he has a credibility problem of presidential proportions.

Almost six years ago we had 500 gallons of fuel oil, including the toxic chemicals Benzene, Zylene and Toluene, negligently dumped in our home's basement and septic field by a Northville oil company. Due to the failure of the polluter to promptly clean up the inside portion of the spill, my wife continues to suffer painful medical problems due to toxic exposure.

Shortly after the spill, as vertified by state election records, our polluter's insurance company, Auto-Owners Insurance, contributed 246,000 dollars to one of our Governor's favorite ballot proposals. It was soundly rejected by the voters, but for their generous efforts, Auto-Owners was given a polluter's 'Get Out Of Jail Free' card.

To this day, 300 gallons remain in our septic field located immediately above our deep well at a toxic level of over TEN times the legal limit, forcing us to buy bottled water to drink and cook. The Environmentalists at the Local District level of the D.E.Q. have repeatedly threatened Auto-Owners with State enforcement action, only to have it blocked at a higher levels. How can this happen without Environmental Chairman Bennett's tacit approval.

Senator Bennett needs to come CLEAN with the voters and explain why, after four years in office, Michigan's environmental laws continue to be openly violated by pampered polluters and their insurance companies who make large selective political contributions.

John J. Riley
Milford

East Asian financial crisis could hit close to home

To the editor:

It's an indication of how small the world has become that an economic crisis on the other side of the world can have a dramatic effect right here at home.

Currently, the financial crisis in East Asia has stabilized, but no one is sure what the future holds. The economic consequences of this financial "meltdown" will indeed be painful in the region.

The economies that have been most affected are those of Thailand, South Korea and Indonesia. But the economies of Japan, China and Malaysia have also felt the effects.

While there are several possible explanations for what's going wrong with East Asia's economies, one point of concern is the failure of the region's governments to properly regulate their financial institutions. These banks operated under implicit guarantees that they would not be allowed to fail, and many poor investments were made as a result.

At best, economic growth will be stagnant or negative in several Asian countries for the next one to three years. At worst, economic difficulties in the region could result in political crises that threaten global prosperity and peace into the 21st century.

In the best of times, investors, policymakers and business managers face uncertainty. But trouble in Asian markets significantly raises the level of risk.

It has been predicted that the crisis could have serious implications for the U.S. economy.

For the United States, the most important effects will come in the arena of international trade. In 1996, for example, trade with East Asia accounted for 30 percent of the U.S. market for exported goods, while accounting for 40 percent of U.S. imports.

Changes in Asian international trade patterns will affect the U.S. economy well into 1999, and perhaps beyond.

Manufacturing will bear the brunt of the shock.

It's likely that the current situation will see a shift in focus in the U.S. economic expansion – away from business investment, exports and manufacturing and toward personal consumption, housing construction and services.

Even if the East Asian recession turns out to be worse than expected, it seems unlikely to undermine the lively U.S. economic expansion.

But the potential further widening of the already large U.S. trade deficit could sow the seeds for the next U.S. economic recession.

Ultimately, the willingness of foreigners to finance this deficit may determine whether strong U.S. economic growth can continue.

The Manufacturers Alliance has prepared a report, "The Asian Economic Crisis and the U.S. Economy: An Industry Perspective." For more information, call (703) 841-9000.

Ken McLennan
Manufacturers Alliance

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Jan, 17 yrs.
Likes to camp, rollerblade ("although I'm not good"), read and has always dreamed to see North America.

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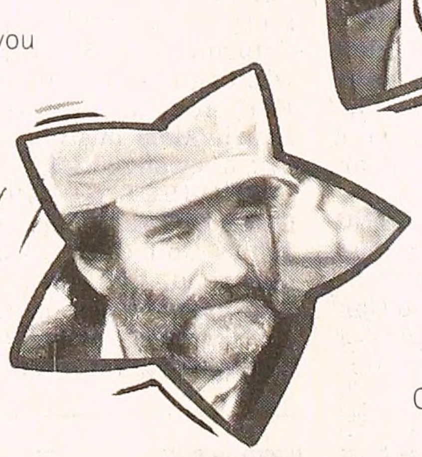

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MICHIGAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

Local HAPPENINGS

YOUR CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND INTERESTS

SEND INFORMATION Items for the *Michigan Community Newspapers* Community Calendar should be submitted in writing at least one to two weeks in advance of publication to "Community Calendar," Michigan Community Newspapers, 35540 Michigan Ave., Wayne, MI. 48184. Each brief calendar item should be listed on a separate piece of paper. For more information call the newsroom at 729-4000 Ext. 43.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY is slated for Oct. 24 this year. Last year 1.3 million people took part across the U.S. serving the homeless, helping children read, collecting clothes for the needy, beautifying parks, etc. If your organization is thinking of doing something that day and seek a planning packet, call the Michigan Community Service Commission at 517-335-4295

HEAD START in Huron/ Woodhaven is now accepting applications from low income families. The program is operated out of the Downriver Guidance Clinic on Merriman road in New Boston. Children attending receive healthy meals and snacks, enjoy playing indoors and outdoors in a safe setting. Children between the ages of 3 and 5 are served by the Head Start Program. For more information call 734-782-7216.

ST. ALOYSIUS' CHURCH LABOR DAY FESTIVAL is slated in Romulus from 6 p.m. Sept. 4 through Labor Day. Free entertainment, moderate priced meals, rides and games are available. A Polka Mass is slated for 11 a.m. Sept. 6. Church grounds are located on Neville road in Romulus, off Goddard road (near 5 Points). for more information call 734-941-5056.

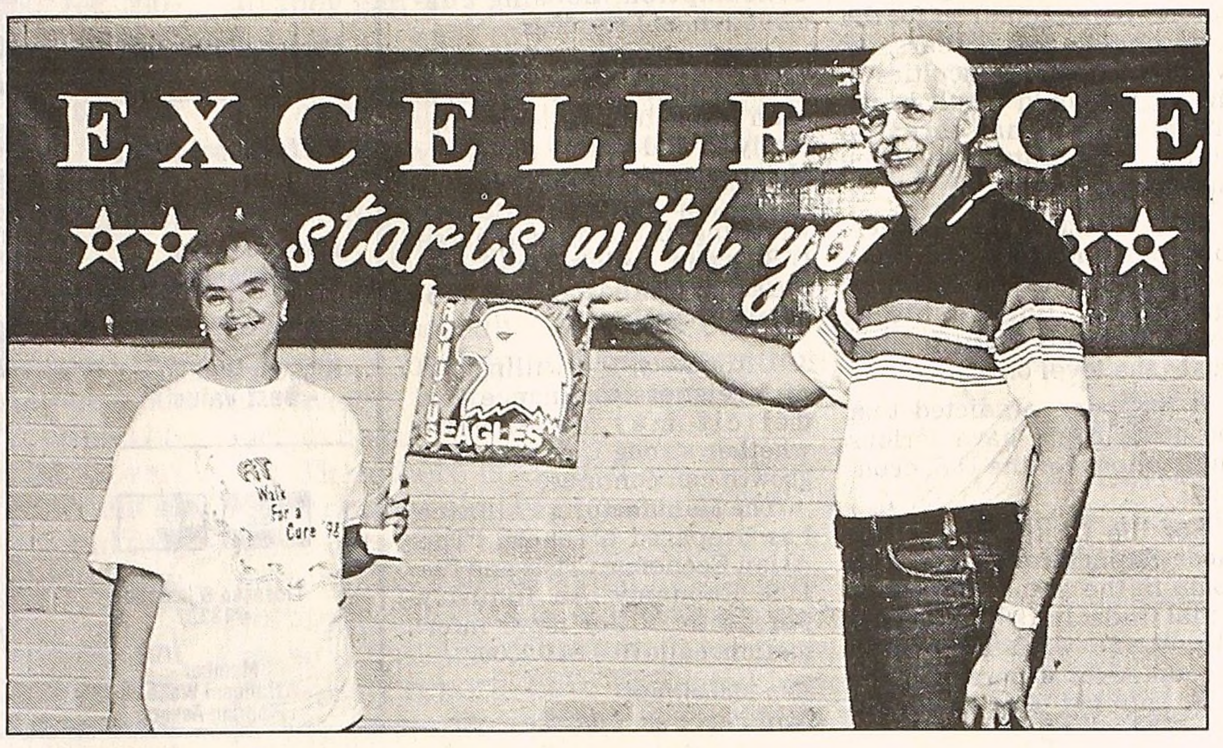
GOOD GUYS ROD AND CUSTOM ASSOCIATION CAR SHOW is slated to begin at 4 p.m. tomorrow in downtown (Goddard Road-Romulus). The free one day showing of over 300 classic cars will serve as a prelude to the major show Saturday at the Meadowbrook.

NORTH TO ALASKA a children's fine art show produced by D and M Studio's Once Upon an Easel will take place Sept 3 and 4 and 8 through 12 beginning 9 o'clock in the morning at the Golden Gate Plaza, 8691 N. Lilley rod, southwest corner of Joy and Lilley roads in Canton. Artwork on Alaska was created by children during recent summer camp sessions. Call Sharon Dillenbeck at 734-453-3710 for more information.

RENAISSANCE SMOKER King Robert and his knights invite public to join in his majesty's favorite pastime...savoring two superior quality cigars, premium beers and a buffet containing cheese, crackers, fruit and hard meats. Smokers are conducted every Saturday at 6 p.m. and on Labor Day at the Michigan Renaissance Festival, off I-75, exit 106, one mile north of Mt. Holly on Dixie Highway between Pontiac and Flint. Cost is $12 per person (festival admission not included). Call 800-601-4848 for reservations.

MEN'S FALL SOFTBALL begins Sept. 9 at Heritage Park in Canton. Each team plays a double header once a week for five weeks (10 games). There is no residency requirement. Cost is $200 per team and each team pays $16 per game to the umpire. Call Summit on the Park and Parks and Recreation office to register 397-5110.

WOMEN SINGERS WANTED the County Connection Chorus of Sweet Adelines International is seeking women who love to sing. Rehearsals are every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the UAW Local 898 building at 8975 Textile road in Ypsilanti. The Chorus is planning a "That's Entertainment" show on Oct. 18 at the Sheraton Inn Ann Arbor. For more information contact Paula at 734-995-4110.



Eagle flags on sale

Romulus High School Booster Club President Ron Dick and Karen Kusibab, a school bus driver, display the newly created Romulus High "Eagle Flag" that is now on sale for $10. Booster club flags can be purchased at the high school or at upcoming football games. MCN Special Photo

WALK FOR LUPUS coinciding with the 25th anniversary of the Michigan Lupus Foundation will take part at 10 a.m. Oct. 3 at Metro Beach Metropark in Mt. Clemens. Registration fee is $5 and those collecting $50 or more will be given a free t-shirt. The 4.1 mile course is ideal for all walkers, joggers, rollerbladers, strollers and even those in wheelchairs. For more information call 810-775-8330.

GRIEF RECOVERY a five week course offered by the Hospice of Washtenaw will stress adapting to losses and skills in coping with such losses. Sessions will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. each Tuesday at the hospice office at 806 Airport Blvd., Ann Arbor. Preregistration is required by calling 734-327-3409.

CIGARETTE SEND OFF learn to be a non smoker again by attending "Cigarette Send Off" at 6 p.m. Aug. 27 sponsored by the American Lung Association of Michigan in Southfield. Program includes self-hypnosis and relaxation techniques. Cost is $50 for new attendees, free for earlier participants. Call 800-LUNG-USA to register.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING free screening takes place from noon until 2 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the lobby of Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster road in Garden City -- between Ford and Warren roads.

FREE HEARING SCREENING is offered from noon until 2 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the lobby of the Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster road in Garden City -- between Ford and Warren roads.

ALZHEIMER SUPPORT GROUP for family members, friends and caregivers of persons afflicted with Alzheimer's Disease or related disorders. The free gathering will be held at 7 p.m. Sept. 9 in Classroom No. 1 of the Garden City Hospital Medical Office Building. Call 458-4330 for more information.

SINGLE MINGLE DANCE is slated at 8 p.m. every Wednesday at the Bonnie Brook Country Club at Telegraph road, south of 8 Mile road in Redford. Proper attire is required. Dances are open to those 21 and over. Cost is $4 and the dance hotline is 313-842-0443.

DETROIT CHADSEY HIGH SCHOOL REUNION for classes 1948-49 will be held Oct. 3, 1998 at St. Clement Hall, 19600 Ford road, Dearborn. Class of 1948 members should call 313-266-4129 and 313-383-1589. Members of the class of 1949: should call 313-273-1589.

10TH ANNUAL NORTHVILLE VICTORIAN FESTIVAL will be held Sept. 18- 20 in downtown Northville. Weekend festivities will include a parade, Eugene Clark's Punch and Judy show, Richard Paul's puppet show, Geri Green's musical jamboree, as well as clowns, storytellers and magicians. Saturday and Sunday events will begin at 11 a.m. each day. For more information call Laurie Mars at the Northville Chamber at 248-349-7640.

PROJECT COMPASSION GOLF OUTING is slated at St. John's Golf Club, 14830 Sheldon road, Plymouth at noon Aug. 29. Four person scramble costs $95 per person and will cover carts, refreshments on the course and a dinner. Outing benefits nursing home programs at Project Compassion, 3455 Woodward ave., Detroit. For more information call 800-626-9622.

OPEN AUDITIONS are planned by the Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra from Sept. 11-13. Deadline for scheduling such an audition is Aug. 28. Candidates should be prepared to play a solo of their choice, selected excerpts and scales pertaining to their instrument grouping. The location of the auditions is Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward ave., Detroit.

PLANNING FOR IRA DISTRIBUTIONS is slated at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 25 by Paine Webber Inc. at the Paine Webber Conference Center in Livonia. Seminar speaker is Daniel A. Cesta, investment executive. Call hotline at 800-616-1123.

LIVING TRUST AND WEALTH PRESERVATION is slated at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 27 by Paine Webber Inc. at the Paine Webber Conference Center in Livonia. Seminar speakers are attorney David Perry and investment executive Philip P. Bocketti Jr. For more information call 800-616- 1123.

40TH ANNUAL STAMP SHOW is slated to open at 10 a.m. Oct. 3 and 4 at the Al Matta Club, 5121 Oakman blvd. in Dearborn. The free show includes 30 frames of stamps and Postal History and the course will consist of 10 dealers. A special cachet commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Ford Stamp Club and the Ford 150 truck will be available for $1 per cover.

RAILROADIANA EVENT featuring opportunities to buy or trade trains and toys from noon until 4 p.m. Sept. 20 hosted by the SS. Simon and Jude Church Ushers' Club. Admission is $2 each or $4 for a family. Church is located at 32500 Palmer road (one mile west of Merriman road) in Westland. For more information call 595-8327.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL REGISTRATION is now occurring in Wayne. Registration is for grades K-8th. For more information call 734-721- 1240.

CRAFTERS NEEDED for Good Shepherd Reformed Church Craft Show and Bazaar planned from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Nov. 21. Church is located at Wayne and Hunter in Westland. Call Ray or Jackie Gagnon at 734-722- 7225 for more information.

LYME DISEASE support group meeting is slated for 7 p.m. Sept. 15 at the First United Methodist Church of Wayne. Speaker will discuss magnet and far-infared technology. There is no charge. For more information call 734-326-3502.

THEATRE SEASON TO OPEN at Schoolcraft College with *Night Watch* by Lucille Fletcher on Oct. 23-24, Nov. 6-7, and Nov. 13-14. Cost is $19 for dinner and theatre or $8 for theatre performance only. Call 462-4596 for more information.

REDWING AUTOGRAPHS Kris Draper and Kirk Maltby of the Detroit Red Wings will be on hand at the Wayne Brewery (Michigan avenue west and Second street) in Wayne beginning at 2 p.m. Aug. 30th. Only 1,100 tickets are being sold for $45 for the two autographs. For more information call 734-729-7912 or 810-905-6649.

NATIONAL WHEELCHAIR CHAMPIONSHIP for pool-players will be held Aug. 28-30 in conjunction with the First Annual Olhausen International Team Championship from Aug. 31 to Sept. 2 at the Electric Stick, 6581 N. Wayne road in Westland. The International Championship will be filmed and shown on ESPN.

25TH ANNIVERSARY FOR PLYMOUTH CHORUS will be celebrated on Oct. 2 with a gala ball at Laurel Park Manor in Livonia. For more information call 734-459-6829 or write to P.O. Box 700217, Plymouth, MI. 48170.

SUMMER SWIM PROGRAM sponsored by the Belleville Tigers Swim Club will be conducted at the Belleville High School Swimming Pool. Programs will be run Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call 734-697-8381.

THE BELLE OF AMHERST will be offered at 8 p.m. Sept. 25 at the Plymouth Community Arts Council facility at 774 N. Sheldon road in Plymouth. Ticket cost is $27.50. Later offerings will be Innocent Merriment on Oct. 23 and Parisian Soiree on Nov. 13. For more information call 734-416-4ART.

CRISIS CENTER If you need help call the SOS Crisis Center Line number at 734-485-3222. The center in Ypsilanti also is looking for open-minded people who are willing to serve as crisis counselors. No experience is necessary...free training is provided beginning Sept. 22. Call for more information at 734-485-8730.

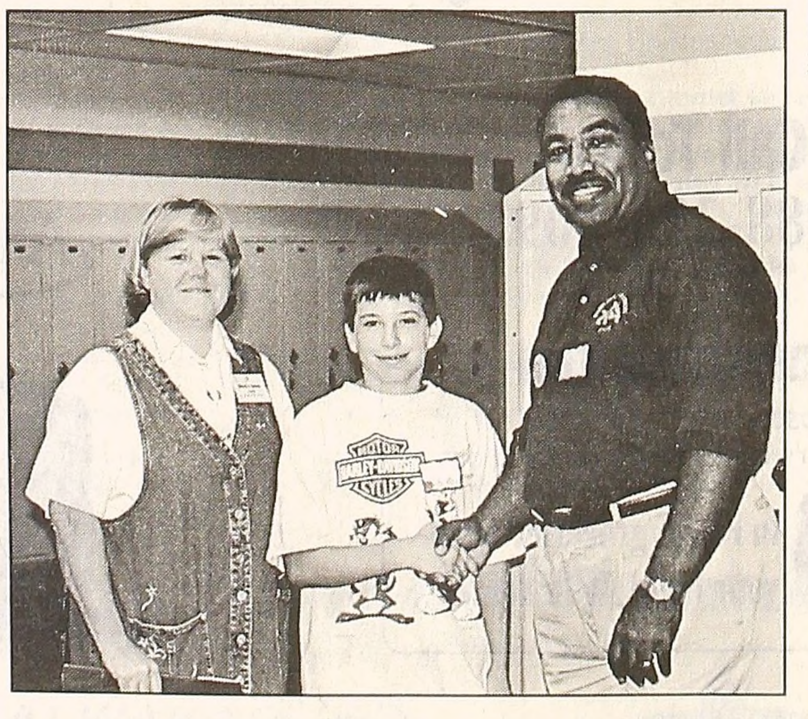
CATHOLIC SCHOOL REGISTRATION is now taking place at St. Aloysius School in Romulus for grades K-8. Kindergarten program is a five day all day program. Have brand new computer lab, physical education, vocal music and instrumental music. Call parish office for more information at 734-941-5050.

FLU SHOT ARE COMING for Wayne residents 50 and over, $5 cost, from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. Oct. 7 at the Wayne Senior Activity Center, 35000 Sims Avenue. The cost is covered by Medicare, so bring your card. Register in advance beginning Sept. 8.

WHAT'S COMING IS BETTER THAN WHAT'S BEEN Guest evangelist Bishop Gregory M. Davis Sr. of Morgan City, LA. will speak 7:30 p.m. Sept. 16-18 at the Nehemiah Word of Faith FGBC, 4004 Ash St., Inkster.

Whose nose?

George Simko Sr. of Romulus displays a unique egg plant he found growing on his property last week. The plant gives the appearance of bearing a huge protruding nose similar to that of a late U.S. president or a noted American comedian. MCN Special Photo



Leadership program

Romulus Middle School Principal Ed Clark greets seventh grade student Jeff Hoffman as he arrives for the special Summer Leadership Academy. Standing to the left is Leadership Advisor Betty Santo. MCN Special Photo

CALENDAR FORM

The **Michigan Community Newspapers** want to assist you in publicizing your upcoming event. Carefully fill in the following information form and mail it to the Community Calendar, c/o the **Michigan Community Newspapers**, 35540 Michigan Ave., Wayne, MI. 48184. You may also fax the item to **313-729-6088**. Deadline is the Friday before publication. Call **729-4000**, ext. 43 for further information.

Event: ______________________

Date and time: ______________________

Location: ______________________

Telephone: ______________________

Additional Information: ______________________

Use additional Sheet if necessary

Obituaries

MICHIGAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

BARBER, MARY L.
BLEDSOE, JAMES R.
DURANT, CHARLES B.
JULIEN, BESSIE
LOCHRIE, MARY J.
KRAKOSKI, DOROTHY
MUHAMMAD, OMARI J.
NUNLEE, HAROLD D.
PONTE, JOSEPHINE L.
RIVES, MINNIE "TUT"
RUNDELL, JANET S.
SCHULTZ, ARTHUR L.
SCROGGIN, HAROLD V.
SMITH, WILLIAM
SPISAK IRENE L.
TONER, WILLIAM R.
WILSON, FREDERICK

BARBER, MARY L.
Age 61 of Inkster passed away July 4, 1998. Beloved mother of Harlene, Veronica, Lyric, and Dewey. Also survived by 6 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and a host of family and friends. Services were held July 10 at Amity Baptist Church. Arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home.

BESSIE, JULIEN
Age 90 of Romulus passed away August 17, 1998 at her home. Beloved mother of Daniel J. (Jane) J., Jr., Douglas (Eva) J., and David. Also survived by 3 brothers and sisters, 10 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, and 2 great, great grandchildren. Preceded in death by 10 brothers and sisters. Services were held August 20 at Uht Funeral Home with interment at Udell Cemetery, Ypsilanti Twp. Memorial contributions may be made to David Julien.

BLEDSOE, JAMES R.
Mr. James R. "Bob" Bledsoe, age 76 of Ionia, passed away on Sunday, August 16, 1998 at Ionia C. Memorial Hospital. He was born in Martin Co., IN, the son of Robert and Mary (McDermott) Bledsoe and attended St. Mary's High School in Wayne, MI. Bob served 5 years in the U.S. Navy during WWII., leaving the Navy as a Seaman First Class. He was married to the former Louise Esch on August 31, 1946 and she preceded him in death on March 10, 1998. He was a member of Sts. Peter and Paul's Catholic Church in Ionia and a member of the Knights of Columbus for 38 years. He worked at Mitchell-Bentley and General Tire as a foreman for 24 years before retiring. Surviving are: sons Michael and Dennis (Sharon) B., both of Ionia, daughter Susan (Robert) M. of Ionia, 7 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, and brother Charles B. of Indianapolis. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, 1 sister and 3 brothers. Mass of Christian Burial was held on August 19 at Sts. Peter and Paul's Catholic Church, Ionia, with interment at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Memorial Fund of Sts. Peters and Paul's Catholic Church.

DURANT, CHARLES B.
Age 72 of Plymouth passed away August 15, 1998 in Detroit. Beloved husband of Joan L. Durant. Loving father of Charles (Theresa) F. Durant, Nancy (Joseph) A. Beaudrie, David M. Durant, and Joan M. Sergison. Dear brother of Robert F. Durant. Also survived by 6 grandchildren. Preceded in death by parents, Vera C. and Frank L. Durant. Services were held August 16 at Church of the Divine Savior with interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Arrangements by Vermeulen Funeral Home. Memorials in the form of mass offerings would be appreciated.

KRAKOSKI, DOROTHY
Age 80 of Wayne passed away August 20, 1998. Dear friend of Mary E. Allen. Survived by many friends and family members. Funeral arrangements by Harry J. Will Trust 100 Funeral Home, Wayne. Interment at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock, Michigan.

LOCHRIE, MARY J.
Age 84 of New Port Richey, FL (formerly of Belleville) passed away August 15, 1998 at her residence. Beloved wife of John L. Dear mother of Jack (Beth) L., Margo L., Nancy D., Stephen (Marsha) L., Timothy (Kim) L., Christopher (Donna) L., and Dennis L. Dear daughter of James and Lillis (King) Fitzgibbons. Sister of Elizabeth H. Sister-in-law of Margaret H., and Bill L. Also survived by 9 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren. Preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Ethel Rose. Services were held August 20 at St. Anthony Catholic Church with interment at St. Joseph Cemetery, Whittaker, MI. Memorial contributions in the form of masses. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home.

MUHAMMAD, OMARI J.
Age 16 of Inkster passed away July 2, 1998. Beloved son of Sharon and Jeffrey. Dear brother of Diya, Khalid, and Aquila. Also survived by a host of family and friends. Services were held July 8 at Penn Funeral Home.

NUNLEE, HAROLD D.
Age 60 passed away July 2, 1998. Beloved husband of Doris. Loving father of Harold, Coty and Cody. Also survived by a host of family and friends. Services were held July 8 at First Missionary Baptist Church. Arrangements by Penn Funeral Home.

PATE, PERRY F.
Age 52 of Romulus passed away August 17, 1998 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. Beloved father of Matthew P. Dear son of Etheline (Oscar) W. Also survived by sister Lynn (Ronald) G., and many nieces and nephews. Services were held August 20 at Uht Funeral Home with interment at Romulus Cemetery, Romulus. The family suggests memorial contributions to American Heart Association.

PONTE, JOSEPHINE L.
Age 88 of Saline, formerly of Plymouth, passed away August 20, 1998. Dear mother of Rita M. Beloved sister of Florence B., and Helen P. Also survived by grandchildren David M., Karen M., Matthew P., and Stephen P., and great grandchild, Tyler M. Preceded in death by son William P., parents Michael and Catherine Moskal, and husband William Ponte. Services were held August 24 at Vermeulen Funeral Home with interment at Cadillac Memorial Gardens, Westland. Memorials to the American Diabetes Association.

RIVES, MINNIE "TUT"
Age 77 of Inkster passed away July 8, 1998. Beloved mother of Bernard, and Moirrie. Also survived by 5 sisters, 4 grandchildren, 1 great grandson, and a host of family and friends. Services were held July 17 at Amity Baptist Church. Arrangements entrusted to Penn Funeral Home.

RUNDELL, JANET S.
Age 51 of Milford, formerly of Westland, passed away August 19, 1998 at home. Loving mother of Harry R., and Jessica R. Also survived by sister Brenda M., and grandchildren Shawn S., and Timothy R. Cremation rites accorded. Arrangements by the Uht Funeral Home.

SCHULTZ, ARTHUR L.
Age 89 of Westland passed August 19, 1998 in Livonia. Beloved father of Gary and Shirley S., and Robert and Linda S. Dear brother of Dorothy K. Also survived by 7 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren. Services were held August 22, 1998 at St. Theodore Catholic Church. Memorial tributes in the form of mass offerings would be appreciated. Arrangements by Vermeulen Trust Funeral Home.

SCROGGIN, HAROLD V.
Age 89 of Romulus passed away August 18, 1998 at Holy Spirit Hospital. Loving father of James S., Donna (David) G., Eileen (Earl) M., and Jeanne (Dennis) M. Also survived by 13 grandchildren, and 12 great grandchildren. Preceded in death by wife, Gladys, 3 brothers, and 1 sister. Services were held August 21 at Crane Funeral Home with interment at Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock.

SMITH, WILLIAM
Age 84 of Inkster passed away June 26, 1998. Beloved husband of Pearl. Dear father of Marlene, Lynn, Warner, Verl, and William. Also survived by 6 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, plus a host of family and friends. Services were held July 6 at Penn Funeral Home.

SPISAK, IRENE L.
Age 89 of Bradenton, Florida, formerly of Westland, passed away August 17, 1998. Dear mother of Richard (Betsy), Edward (Shirley), Michael (Beth), Margaret (Frank) L., and Virginia (George) H. Loving sister of Juliette G. Also survived by 21 grandchildren, 39 great grandchildren, and 3 great, great grandchildren. Preceded in death by husband Edward, a son, daughters, brothers, and sisters. Services were held August 21 at St. Mary's Catholic Church with interment at St. Mary's Catholic Church Cemetery, Wayne. Arrangements by Uht Funeral Home.

TONER, WILLIAM R.
Age 70 of Romulus passed away August 22, 1998 at Oakwood Hospital. Beloved husband of Frances T. Dear father of Mrs. John (Robin E.) B., Mrs. Terry (Piper A.) M., Ms. Jody S., and Mrs. Victor (Shawn S.) B. Loving brother of James T., Mrs. Robert (Jean) R., and Mrs. Michael (Diane) C. Also survived by 6 grandchildren. Services were held August 25 at Crane Funeral Home with interment at Glen Eden memorial Cemetery, Livonia.

WILSON, FREDERICK
Age 59 of Inkster passed away July 12, 1998. Beloved husband of Debbie, Freddie, Taneda, and Lawana. Also survived by 2 other children, 7 grandchildren, and a host of family and friends. Services were held July 18 at Penn Funeral Home. Cremation rites were accorded.

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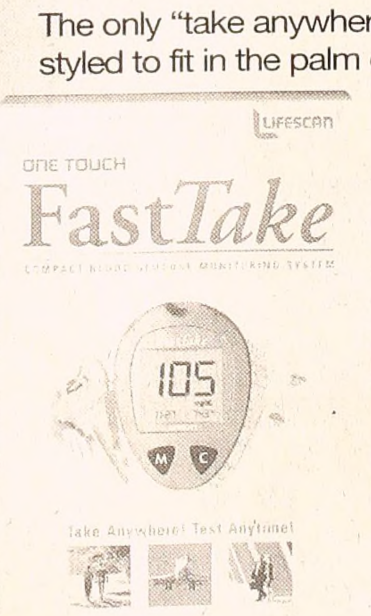

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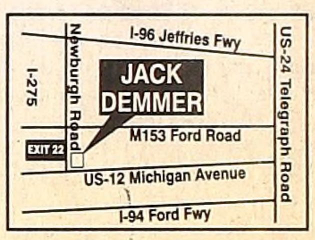

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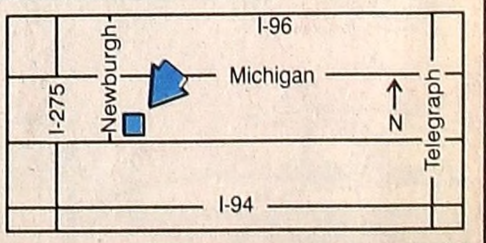

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End of Yauck era...beginning of new Yauck era

Son inherits father's coaching job at Robichaud High

Bob Yauck

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

The Bob Yauck era at Robichaud High School has ended.

The Bob Yauck II era will begin on Sept. 4 when the Bulldogs take to the gridiron and face nemesis Grosse Ile.

Yauck, the dean of the area high school football coaches, stepped aside after 35 years as head football coach at the Dearborn Heights high school. He wanted, but was not granted one more year to coach. The administration refused to grant him his wish.

One of the most successful coaches in the state of Michigan, and a member of the Michigan High School Association's Hall of Fame, Yauck produced a cadre of professional football players, including former University of Michigan running back Tyrone Wheatley, and has not had a losing season for almost two decades.

"Everyone knows that I love football, and I love coaching," said Yauck by telephone Monday night. "But I have no other choice at this time. Believe me, it hurts, but there were no other options."

Yauck's teams have won 75 percent of their games in the last 15 years and during the 1990 campaign, with Wheatley in the backfield, Robichaud captured the Class B state championship.

Yauck's son, Robert Yauck II, has been named to head the program that his father so successfully built and guided over the past 3 1/2 decades. It won't be easy to follow in his father's footsteps, Yauck admits.

"It would be a challenge to keep the winning tradition alive, but my staff and I have accepted that challenge," said the rookie coach."

The newly-appointed coach also played for his father's teams during the late 1970s and was an All-State defensive lineman. He went on to star at Northern Michigan University and helped the Marquette team reach the national playoffs three of the four years that he was in the lineup.

The 1998 Robichaud lineup has some - but not many- shortcomings that the new coach will have to address. But he has the entire offensive line intact. The preseason roster has tackles Larry Young (6-5, 270), Theodore Daniels (6-3, 210); guards Justin Orr (5-11, 263), Richard Howard (5-10, 210), center Michael Young (6-1, 235) and ends Tommy Lang (6-2, 260) and Tyrone Lofton (6-1, 240) listed.

That means Yauck will not need to tinker with the scheme of things.

Yauck also has inherited from his father's team one of the better quarterbacks in the area in senior Quantre Riley, who has a strong passing arm and also is a fast-stepping ballcarrier. Last year, Riley passed for 700 yards.

Riley will also be used on defense as a cornerback.

Daniel Jarrett, an outstanding athlete, will back up Riley at the QB slot, but he is being groomed as the split end. Glued-fingers Robert Jones, a 5-9, 160-pound senior is the flanker.

Fullback Raymond Rapley returns to the lineup and brings three years of experience to it. He's a senior that checks in at 5-8, 190. There is a battle being waged between Ray Brown (6-2, 210), Levi Peopples (6-0, 170) and Steve Scott (5-10, 175) for the starting tight back slot.

The Bulldogs will open up the 1998 campaign on the home turf against a team that has caused them problems in the past. They'll face the Islanders, who have beaten them in the opener the last two times out.

"It's important," says Yauck, "to get off to a good start.

Countdown begins

The countdown has begun to the 1998 high school football season as three new coaches prepare to make their debuts next week. There have been a changing of the guards, of sorts, at Plymouth-Canton, Wayne Memorial and Dearborn Heights Robichaud where some familiar and some unfamiliar faces are back on the gridiron. To keep up with your favorite team, stay in touch with the award-winning *Michigan Community Newspapers'* sports section where veteran writers will again be on the sidelines to cover the games and give you the ups-and- downs of our local squads.

Rebuilding is a cause for concern for LaPointe

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

There's a saying among coaches that if you're No. 1 you just can't be complacent.

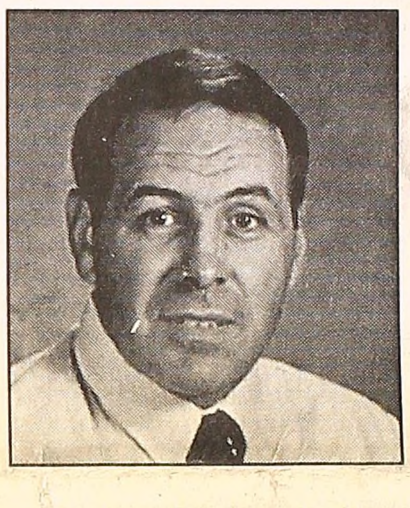
And, although Belleville was No. 1 a year ago, you can bet veteran coach Bob LaPointe isn't going to be complacent. In fact, the Tiger coach has some deep concerns and the top priority will be the need to reshape a team that has been ripped by graduation.

LaPointe has a handful of competent players returning off of the 1997 squad that shared the Mega Conference Red Division championship with Monroe. The Tigers also made a post-season appearance in the state playoffs. They lost to a strong Ann Arbor Huron team at the regionals).

The experience factor is a key to the success of any team, and the backfield provides some comfort to LaPointe.

In fullback Cullen Jenkins, a 6-3, 215 pound senior returning for his third varsity season, the Tigers may have a franchise player here.

They also have C. J. Grantham, noted for his heroics on the basketball court. His quickness and perceptiveness will be used at quarterback. Grantham's work ethics may help carry this team into the title hunt again. He's a tough man to bring down.



Bob LaPointe

But the senior QB will have some competition, however. Kevin Harrison, also a star of the last year's hoop race to the state finals, will be vying for some time at QB.

Greg Terrell, another senior with strong work ethics, along with Mark Kroger, a wide receiver who doubles as a free safety on defense, complete the list of returnees.

And LaPointe has the laborious task of putting together an offensive line wiped out by graduation that will dubious honor of facing the likes of an outstanding Monroe club, an improved Wayne Memorial and a Fordson, which could be the underdog success story of the 1998 campaign.

Some coaches believe that Fordson may be on top of the Mega Red standings come November. But insiders say that Monroe definitely has the horses in this race.

Incidentally, for the first time in Fordson's history, the Tractors will play all of their home games under the lights.

The Dearborn Public Schools have installed lights at all three of the high schools and the administration has decided to approve Friday night games.

"We must retool an entire offensive line," LaPointe said. "It isn't going to be easy. But we have some kids out there who I believe can get the job done."

LaPointe and his staff do not have much time to shore up the lineup. They will face coach Tom Moshimer and the Plymouth Salem in their opener for the 1998 season.

The two non-conference rivals have split in their last two meetings, and LaPointe expects to see a very improved and had-hitting Salem team take to the field on Sept. 4.

LaPointe isn't smiling these days. But that could all change, if the Tigers' offensive line can get the job done for a backfield that appears to be second to none in this area.

From the dugout

Can McGwire shatter HR record?

In the feverish pitch to see whether Mark McGwire or Ken Griffey Jr. or Sammy Sosa can eclipse Roger Maris's home run record, baseball fans across the country and world are sitting on the edge of their seats in anticipation.

Can any of the three sluggers do it?

Time will tell, but let me tell our first reader this:

It means nothing to me unless he (McGwire) or the other two home run hitters can do it within the 154-game window as accomplished by the great Babe Ruth.

Also, it is my personal opinion that the quality of pitching today is so far inferior to when the great Ruth hit his 60 homers in 1927.

Ruth also had a .356 batting average and 164 RBIs to boot that year. I don't believe that McGwire will even come close to those marks. By the way, Ruth only struck out 89 times that year.

As I am knocking out this piece for the newspaper, McGwire is hitting at a .286 pace, and he also has a total of 113 strikeouts and 106 RBIs. And remember this, the strike zone back when Ruth played was from the chest to the knees, now it's from the knees to a little above the belt.

O. K. enough for now. Let time take its course. Let's go back to the questions that our readers have asked this week.

Reader: Tell me more about Walter Johnson, a pitcher you considered as "baseball's greatest".

Waltz: Here's what I have managed to dig up: Johnson won 146 games in 21 years and lost 278 games. He also posted

See **DUGOUT**, page B-2

Thanks for those fall schedules

As in the past, the *Michigan Community Newspapers'* sports staff will be contacting area high school coaches for the latest scores and results.

New coaches in the area are urged to contact the MCN sports desk during regular business hours, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Staff writers may be reached at 734-729-4000.

MCN would also like the home telephone numbers of those coaches who are new in the area so that staff writers may contact them, if needed.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Thanks again, for the fall schedules.

And good luck and a successful 1998-99 season.

Wayne Memorial welcomes back Carter

Zebras get a new beginning, new playbook, but a familiar goal - win!

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

Wayne Memorial welcomed back Floyd Carter as head football coach with a smile last week.

Zebra football fans have not had much to smile about these past few autumns after their favorite team has struggled on the gridiron. Wayne finished a dismal 1-8 a year ago and in the cellar of the tough Mega Conference, Red Division in 1997.

Even Carter admits that the climb from the cellar toward the top will be a hard and long climb. But he is very eager to begin the task.

"There are some excellent teams in this division," Carter noted, singling out Belleville, Monroe and Dearborn High among the primary frontrunners in '98. "We have some competent and reliable players that I feel have the potential of playing with any team in or out of our league.

"But we have a lot of work to do before we are ready."

Carter also was quick to say that "It's great to be back."

Although the veteran coach really had not traveled too far from the local gridiron - he served on former Wayne coach Chuck Howton's staff a year ago and also was the head coach at neighboring Dearborn Heights Crestwood after he left the coaching job at Wayne Memorial, Carter has always had his fingers on the pulse of football at Wayne.

"I don't even want to think the number of times I have gone down to the Flats and climbed back up," said Carter, who also played for the Zebras back in the 1950s.

"When coaching gets in your blood, it's hard to get out," Carter says.

Of the 36 players who turned out to greet Carter on the first day of practice, 22 are seniors and all 22 had seen some playing time during last year's campaign.

The 22 may have to learn - or relearn - some new plays and new schemes, but the players are ready to shed their losing image, Carter stressed.

"These kids know it isn't going to be easy. They know what is waiting for them, but let me tell you this - when they run on to that field, they will be ready to play. Believe me they will."

Carter won't have to tinker much with his backfield. He has junior Shane Nowak, who started as a sophomore, returning at quarterback. Two players with quick enough feet - Terry Turner and Cameron Mingo - are also returning as running backs and Kwame Hampton, although he saw only limited action, is also another solid candidate for the running back slot.

Two solid athletes - Jawuante Dawson and Eric Wojie - bring experience to the fullback position.

Wayne's offensive line should be greatly improved thanks to veterans Phillip Beckert (5-10, 192) and Chris Balek (6-2, 212) who are the probable starters at guard; Ryan Czyzak, a 6-1, 240-pound senior is being switched from guard to one of the tackle spots and he is being joined by immovable Steve Barber, a 6-7, 335-pound senior.

Barber could make the underdogs the team to watch in '98, if he fulfills his potential.

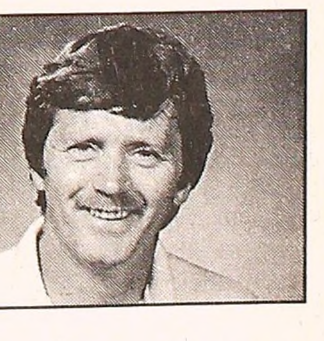
Carter is grooming Nick Scott (6-1, 250) as the tight end, while 6-1, 212 pound junior Mike Shaw will anchor the line at center.

The coaching staff is looking at two prospects for the wide receiver's job. Jamaul Simmons (5-11, 182-pounds) and Jermaine Garner (5-11, 150) are the candidates.

Wayne's kicking game, fatally flawed in the past, also should be improved thanks to Jeremy Overton and Willie Perryman. Wojie also will get an opportunity to show that his toe is solid.

Carter's staff will consist of Dewie Cole, Doug Mack and Matt Howton - all veteran strategists who have helped design the past Wayne playbooks.

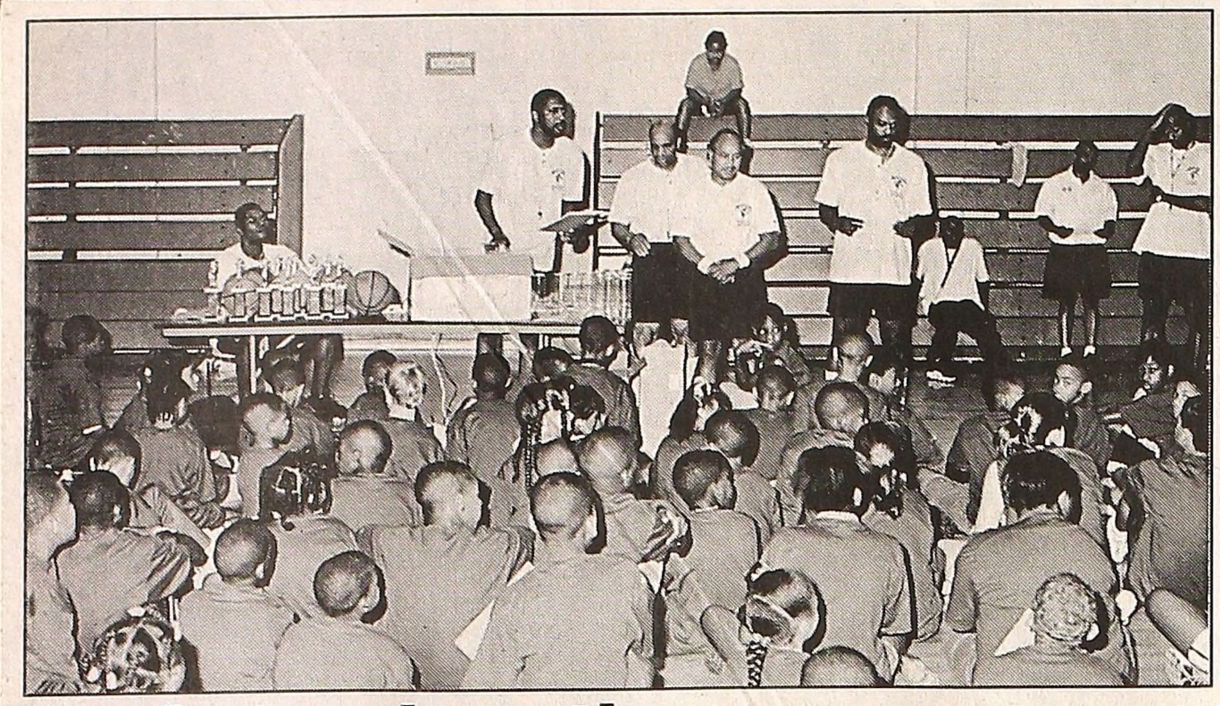
Carter also says that last year's 1-8 record is very deceptive in that Wayne was in most of the games it played a year ago. The Zebras lost to Dearborn on a last-second field goal and Fordson had to come from behind to beat them. Even defending co-champ, Belleville, got a scare from the underdogs.



Floyd Carter

Wayne does not have an easy assignment for an opener. They play Adrian, a team that always put a competitive team on the gridiron.

"We know they are tough, and we're looking forward to the encounter," Carter said.



The Legend continues

In the aftermath of a successful inaugural attempt, the sponsors of the *Legends Basketball Camp* announced on Monday that they are planning to hold a second camp next year. The *Legends* offered boys and girls from the area an opportunity to learn basketball skills from some of the best players in the country, including All-American prep Albert White (above, seated in bleachers), Duane Fox (standing at table), Freddie Smiley, camp organizer, Chester Hicks and Eartha Faust. All are graduates of Inkster High School who went on to earn All-America recognition as collegiate ball players. Also pictured sitting on the floor at the Inkster Recreation Complex gym are some of the hoop stars of the future.

A field of 100

Inkster crowns tennis champions

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

> *When the dust cleared, Kane Hunter turned back local favorite Franlot Hayes to capture the Men's Open title.*

Hard-swinging tennis players, from near and afar, gathered last week in the city of Inkster to determine the 1998 Inkster Parks and Recreation tennis championships.

When the dust cleared, Kane Hunter turned back local favorite Franlot Hayes to capture the Men's Open title.

In the meantime, another local favorite, Cora Roberts, fell short in her bid for the Women's Singles crown as West Bloomfield's Melanie Lutwin surfaced with the first-place award.

David White, representing Detroit, squared off with Redford Township's Scott Sanders and the veteran Detroit tennis player won the Men's 35 & Over Singles' Division title.

Longtime Inkster netter Johnny Evans also came up short in his bid for the Men's 45 & Over Singles title as Detroiter Glenn Jones strolled off the court with the victory and the first-place plaque.

In the Men's Open Doubles competition, Inkster's Ernest Ndukue teamed up with Dr. Theo Unlinfin of Beverly Hills to edge Detroiters Ron Parker and Austin Amene.

Inkster's Fatino Kincaise and Joyce Evans also fell short in their bid to claim the Women's Open Double as Penny Watkins and Connie Edwards were crowned the division's champs.

In a well-played finals for the Men's 35 & Over Doubles' title, Detroiters Darrin Green and Richard Green managed to stun Dr. Theo Unlinfin and Nate Eilonu for the title.

In the Adult Mixed Doubles, Parker and Penny Watkins reached the finals where they clashed with and defeated Austins Amene and Connie Edwards.

In its 20th year, the tournament has grown over the years thanks to the efforts of Michael Bank of the Professional Racquet Service.

"The tournament was a success due to all the hard work of Mr. Bank," stressed Ron Wolkowicz, Inkster Parks and Recreation director. "Through his efforts, we have managed to get tennis players as far away as Pontiac and West Bloomfield to come in here and play.

"And we are looking forward to an even bigger and better 21st tournament next year," Wolkowicz concluded.

Dugout

Continued from page B-1

> *There is something else you should remember about those oldtimers - they would play for almost nothing, because they 'truly loved the game of baseball'.*

110 shutouts and lost 51 games where his team could not get him a single run. Also note that Johnson played for a perennial last place team, the Washington Senators, who only went to the World Series twice - in 1924 and 1925.

Johnson had an incredible ERA (Earned Run Average) for those 21 seasons of .217.

Reader: What should the Tigers do to produce a winner in 1999?

Waltz: The message is clear. The need a new manager. And in my humble opinion the man who can get the job done is Jim Leyland (No, I am not on Leyland's payroll).

Then, the Tigers also will need to hire one of their minor league pitching coaches, Jon Matlack, who has had fantastic successes. He has 125 Major League victories.

Add to that staff Whitey Herzog as the general manager and Hall of Famer Eddie Mathews as their hitting coach, you definitely will have a winner.

Catchers make the best managers, in my opinion. To name just three who did an exceptional job with their teams - Yogi Berra, Al Lopez and Bob Swift.

One of the reasons I feel that catchers make the best manager is that they know when a pitcher is getting tired, and they won't hesitate to yank him.

Reader: What about Satchel Paige?

Waltz: Boy, you guys won't give up out there, will you? Paige, of course, is an enigma because we will never know what he really could have done in his prime because blacks were not allowed in the majors at the time he was in his prime. But Paige definitely was a great one. I got a chance to see him pitch when Cleveland brought him up and he shut out the Tigers 2-0 on that particular Sunday afternoon.

Like Walter Johnson, you didn't see Paige's fastball - you heard it zoom past you.

And Ole Satch also had that pinpoint control great pitchers must have. And I also have been told both worried about hitting someone in the head because they didn't have batting helmets back then.

Also, did you know that the Big League scouts would not sign or recommend any player who wore glasses!

There is something else you should remember about those oldtimers - they would play for almost nothing, because they "truly loved the game of baseball".

What a difference a couple of decades will do to a sport, right fans.

See you next week.

First Flight leaders

Sporting smiles after their trophy-winning performances at the annual City Championship Golf Tournament are Ann Wheeler (above, at right), who captured medalist honors in the Women's Open Division, First Flight. Virginia King (above, at left) finished third in the flight. Not available at the time of the photo was flight runner-up Julie Quartuccio.

Westland golfers pace WSGA

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

Westland golfers finished 1-2 in the second flight of the Women's Suburban Golf Association competition last week.

Penny Irwin edged city rival, Mary Cunningham, by four strokes to surface as the medalist in the Second Flight in WSGA action at the Willow Metro Golf Course.

In the same flight, Pat Henke of Wayne turned in the best score (73) for the low net, while Farmington Hills' Dorothy Cody was one-stroke back in second-place in the race for top honors.

In the meantime, over in the first flight, Joey Kruithoff coasted to an easy victory as the Novi golfer posted an 82 as she garnered a 11- stroke window over the second-place finishers Diane Wazney and Nancy Wilkie, who turned in identical 93 scores.

Stringing together rounds of 75 and 87 for a two-day total of 162, Canton Township's Paul Massimilla (above) finished atop of the Canton Township Championship Flight during the recent City Championship Golf Tournament. Massimilla's 162 was two-strokes better than runner-up Kyle Gierada, who tied with John Gabossi for the second-place trophy.

Fundraiser scheduled for baseball

In its quest to help Little League and the Romulus High School baseball programs, parents and fans will host a "road rally" on Sept. 19 to collect funds for the programs.

The rally, sponsored by the Romulus Recreation Department, will begin at 6 p.m.

There is a $10 per person (before Sept. 11) registration fee. The fee will be $15 for those signing up after Sept. 11.

A minimum of two and a maximum of six persons will be allowed per vehicle.

For more information, contact Debbie DeMoisey at 734-942-9261 or Keith Brothers at 734-942-6852.

Participants may sign up at the Romulus Recreation Department from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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Neighbors protest auto parts store approval

Law compels Westland City Council to approve Autozone's site plan

By IVAN HELFMAN
MCN Staff Writer

Jack Boyd needed rest, not stress. He had chemotherapy scheduled the next day. But stress or not, the venerable Westland resident wouldn't let his neighbors down. He appeared up at last week's city council meeting to continue a year long fight to keep Autozone, an auto parts chain store, out of his neighborhood.

At the meeting, Autozone asked the city council for approval of a site plan to build a 7,235-square-foot store at the corner of Wayne and Bock roads and to rezone the remainder of the 6.1-acre commercial property into a 4.7-acre subdivision containing small lots -- lots that many neighbors insist are too small.

A year ago Boyd, who lives in Marquette Village, had circulated a petition signed by almost all of the neighbors that helped convince council not to rezone a nearby residential lot to allow Autozone to build there. Neighbors rejoiced, wrongly assuming that council had prevented the auto parts store from moving into the neighborhood.

Autozone came back this year after purchasing a commercial lot. As owners of a commercial lot, they are legally entitled to build an auto parts store in compliance with the city's regulations and building code.

Nevertheless, the neighbors decided to protest, and Boyd circulated another petition, garnering about 75 signatures, by his count.

At council, he said, "I'm an old man representing the streets in the neighborhood." On behalf of the neighbors he protested the destruction of trees, plants, and animals and the potential drop in property values that neighbors expected the store to cause.

"We went around on this last year on the other side of the street," said Tina Simpson, whose family lives on Bock. The community doesn't want this. We addressed you last year about all the abandoned buildings in Westland, now we have more abandoned buildings."

She suggested siting Autozone in one of the many vacant buildings; and urged council not to rezone the remainder of its property to residential.

"There's not enough room for homes," she explained; adding that city employees promised her and her neighbors before they bought their homes that there would be no more new homes in the neighborhood because the only vacant property was landlocked. "Otherwise we would have gone to another part Westland," she said.

Several more citizens voiced pointed complaints.

The complaints were answered by Brian Amann, attorney for Autozone, who told the residents the facts of life. He said, "The city's hands are tied. Their only decision is: does our site plan meet permitted uses?"

It not only meets permitted uses, it exceeds them," said Tod Kilroy, the city's planning director.

Councilman Trav Griffin, who pointed out that failure to follow the law would probably result in an expensive lawsuit that the city would lose, made a motion to approve the site plan.

"If we turn it down, the courts will let them do it. That's an absolute because you can't deny the rights of a property owner."

According to Griffin, the city did the best it could to protect the neighbors. Homes will be buffered from the auto parts store and any new homes. And commercial expansion would be checked.

Only council members Justin Barns and Chuck Pickering voted against the site plan, which passed 5-2, with council members Glenn Anderson, Sandra Cicirelli, Griffin, Richard LeBlanc, and Sharon Scott voting in favor.

Though Pickering favored approving Autozone, he voted "No" because he concluded that nothing would be gained by creating the subdivision against the neighbors' wishes. Barns voted "No" because she agreed with the neighbors: Westland has too many auto-related businesses.

Residents applauded the dissenters' votes, then left in a funk.

"I have a poor opinion of Westland," said Simpson. "I'll be gone."

Business counseling available

By DON RICHTER
MCN Staff Writer

Are you thinking of opening your own business someday, but don't know how to get started? Do you find yourself intimidated by the whole process? Or, are you already a small business owner, but feeling a little overwhelmed in your day-to-day activities?

Well, fret no more. There is help.

SCORE is a business consulting organization sponsored by the Small Business Administration. Retired business executives and owners volunteer their time and expertise to consult with small business owners and managers. New entrepreneurs are given guidance and counseling through the many steps of a business start-up.

Any person or business wishing to set up an appointment with a SCORE counselor or attend one of their workshops can call the main office at (313) 226-7947.

Prospective clients can also call one of the branches in their neighborhood for an individual counseling appointment. Both the Ann Arbor Chamber (734) 665-4433 and the Ypsilanti Chamber (734) 482-4920 have a branch.

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Roving Reporter

Is Canton's growth out of control?

By JIM TANTALO
MCN Staff Writer

Dave Schmidt

Dave Schmidt

Do you think that growth in Canton is out of control?

"I don't know if it's out of control, I think there's a heck of a lot of expansion, but I don't know if it's under control or not."

Do you think that that is a bad thing? And how so?

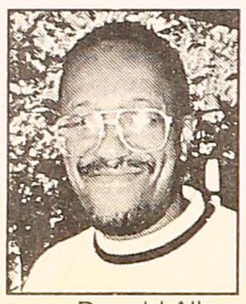
"Well, I guess that personally it's a bad thing due to traffic volumes in places. I can think of a lot of other reasons good and bad, but the main thing that bothers me is traffic."

Why do you think that growth is like it is?

"I think Canton so far has a lot of land still yet to develop and it's kind of on the border of other cities that are fully developed. It's just a natural place to fill up."

What would you say are some good things about all this growth?

"Well I don't know this for a fact but I would hope that the city is making a lot of money off of it, like new tax payers coming in."


Donald Allen

Donald Allen

Do you think that growth in Canton is out of control?

"It's growing pretty fast, but I couldn't say if it's out of control or not. But there's a lot of growth going on. And I'm not sure if all the stores and everything can keep up with the expansion going on right now."

Do you think this is a bad thing?

"It's good and bad. The house prices are going up like crazy, if you do already live here it's all right, but if you wanted to come in it's bad."

Why do you think growth is like it is?

"Because it's a desirable place. When I was looking for my house a couple of years ago the tax rates in Canton were lower than in other areas. And the value of the house was greater in Canton then in neighboring areas."

What do you think could be done to slow growth?

"Well, that's going to be supply and demand. After a certain point if the tax rates go up and the housing prices get out of reach than people will start going to other areas."

Michael Fulkerson

Michael Fulkerson

Do you think that growth in Canton is somewhat out of control?

"No, it's normal. It's growing, yeah, but it's nothing unusual."

Would you say that this is a bad thing?

"No. I mean, it's getting crowded but it's not terribly bad."

Why do you think the growth is like it is?

'Just because there's a lot of space out here, a lot of people want homes, and there's a lot of money in the economy right now."

What would you say are some good things about this kind of expansion?

"Well, it builds Canton. Now it's larger and there's more people, and hopefully more things to do. Now we have these parks out here, we didn't have that when I was younger. Or as much of the wide spread community activity that there is now. I remember in my old neighborhood, it didn't involve a golf course like Pheasant Run, it didn't involve the Summit, it didn't involve Heritage Park, and I think those are all positive steps to the city that are coming from the growth."

What would you say are some bad things about this?

"Driving down Ford Road on Saturday."

Sue Kurginski

Buffy stands in for camera-shy Sue Kurginski.

Do you think that growth in Canton is somewhat out of control?

"Yes. I don't think that the roads and streets are capable of carrying the traffic from the subs that are going in. And trying to come west on Michigan, Ford, Cherry Hill is impossible from about 3:00 in the afternoon."

Would you say that all of this expansion is a bad thing?

"Well, I hate to say bad, but I think it's on the negative side."

Why do you think the growth is like it is?

"Because Canton is such a great place, everybody wants to live here. Even if the water has nowhere to go."

What are some good things about all this expansion?

"It makes for a great tax base, which upholds why people want to come to Canton."

Sandy Selewski

Sandy Selewski

Would you say that growth in Canton is somewhat out of control?

"Yes, because of the roads and the schools."

Do you think that it's a bad thing?

"Yes. They're not planning for the growth adequately, the Canton Planning Commission is not planning adequately. They're approving too many permits for building. They're bringing more and more subdivisions in. They're not taking a look at what they can do to control traffic and make sure that lives aren't endangered because of the overcrowded roads, and the inadequate road structures. They've just done a very poor job of planning."

Why do you think that growth is like it is?

"Well, the community we live in, it's a good location. I guess that's probably why."

What do you think could be done about it?

"They're going to need money to do anything about it, but they're going to need to slow down the growth so that they can take care of what they've already got. They need to slow that down and take a look at what they need to do to plan more adequately for future growth, and to accommodate what they have now. They can't accommodate what they have in the community right now."

What are some good things about this growth?

"Well, I guess the beautiful homes that are being built, and the appreciation in the area."

IRS offers storm relief deduction

Individuals who suffered damage and losses in the severe storms that swept through metro Detroit July 21 and 22, may be eligible for expedited tax refunds from the Internal Revenue Service.

President Clinton has declared Wayne and Macomb counties a major disaster area in the wake of those storms. As a result, individuals in the two counties who suffered losses during that July storm Might qualify for this special tax treatment.

A special tax law provision allows these victims to claim their uninsured disaster casualty losses either by filing an amended tax return for 1997, or when they file their 1998 income tax return.

To compute a casualty loss, the taxpayer will need a list of the property lost or damaged, and the value of the property before and after the casualty. The amount of the tax deduction is generally the difference between the value of the property before and after the casualty, reduced by any insurance or other reimbursement. Individual taxpayers also reduce the amount by 10 percent of their adjusted gross income and must itemize deductions to claim a casualty loss.

Two free publications are available to help taxpayers compute their deduction. Publication 547, "Disasters, Casualties, and Thefts (Business and Nonbusiness)" and Publication 584, "Nonbusiness Disaster, Casualty, and Theft Loss Workbook," can be ordered by calling toll-free (900) 829-3676. They can also be downloaded from the IRS page on the World Wide Web. The address is http://www.irs.ustreas.gov.

Taxpayers filing claims for losses should put the words "Michigan Disaster" at the top of their returns and on their envelopes to help the IRS identify these claims and hasten their processing.

Affected victims may also get help and information at the IRS office in downtown Detroit (room 2040 in the McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Ave.) Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., or they may call toll free (800) 829-1040.

A. CITY OF ROMULUS REQUEST TO RECEIVE BIDS

BID 98-41

AUTOMATIC UNDERGROUND SPRINKLER SYSTEM INCLUDING LABOR

The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified vendors for the above item.

(1) Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit bids must do so on forms provided by the City. Bid forms and specifications may be obtained from Kristian Moe, Purchasing/Computer Services Director, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI or by calling (734) 942-7564.

(2) Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the City Clerk's Office no later than 2:00 p.m., September 1, 1998. At that time said bids will be publicly opened and read.

BID ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED

CITY CLERK
CITY OF ROMULUS, MICHIGAN
BID 98-41
AUTOMATIC UNDERGROUND SPRINKLER SYSTEM
INCLUDING LABOR
11111 WAYNE ROAD
ROMULUS, MI 48174-1472

(3) The right is reserved to reject any and all bids and proposals and to waive technicalities. A bid guarantee in the amount of 5%A of the bids price will be required.

Publish: August 27, 1998

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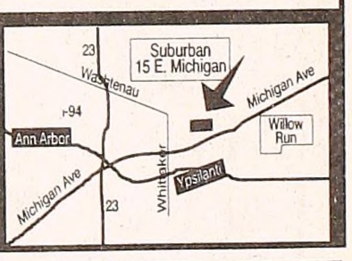

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Everyone gets a first class seat on the GMC Safari

By KAREN STRONSKI
MCN Wheels Writer

From the start, the GMC Safari makes a big impression. This 1998 full- size van has just about everything you could want in a vehicle.

This one is great for family, can fit all of your friends, carry golf clubs or groceries, and still have plenty of room left over. Eight people can fit in the Safari with ease and everyone gets a first class seat.

Safari isn't a competitor of minivans, it's a step up from them. Since families come in a variety of sizes, Safari offers a variety of seating arrangements. With the choice of bench seats or bucket seats in the second row, you can have seating for five, seven or eight passengers. And the best thing is that the bench seats are easily removable.

The fold down consoles in the center and rear SLT bench seats have dual cup holders, in addition to a small table where the kids can play their games when traveling for those long distances. With the available center-seat radio controls, you (or more probable your kids) can control six different functions from the rear seat. Dual volume control, and two headphone jacks are just part of the package.

People who need their space also will appreciate the comfort and convenience of this one. Safari is suitably equipped with air conditioning, front bucket seats, speed-sensitive power steering, am/fm stereo, and a four-speed automatic transmission.

With this one, you could actually tow a minivan. Once you have loaded up the kids, you still have to load your all important stuff, and tow your boat and trailer. Not a problem! With Safari, you have enough power to do it all. This van comes with a 190 horsepower Vortec 4300 V6. It is the most powerful that one can get in a mid-size van. Safari's long-live components make it able to go over 100,000 miles before its first scheduled tune-up.

Safari is capable of towing up to 5500 pounds, and holding up to eight passengers. And there still is 41.3 cubic feet of usable space.

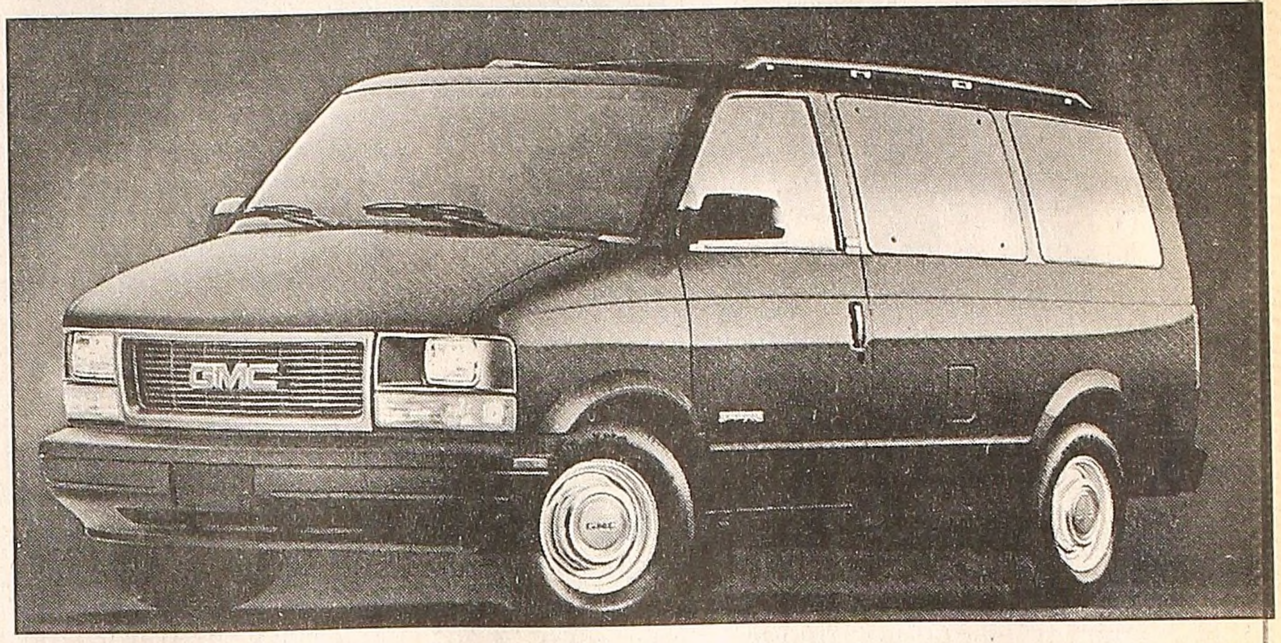
While in the Safari, you realize just how smooth and quiet the ride is. It is a real breeze to drive, especially considering its size. Every gadget in this one is geared towards the driver. You don't have to bend, lean, or stretch to reach anything.

This GMC comes in three different styles, SLT, SLE, and the SLX. And seating from five to eight. The overhead console, houses the available Home-Link system, which lets you activate three functions by remote control, garage door, house lights or even an estate gate.

Some of the choices that are offered both as standard and available features are five different wheel types, dual front power outlets so you can plug in a laptop, a fax machine, or other accessories. Available audio system including a cassette player, equalizer and CD player with eight speakers, and a rear power outlet in the cargo area to plug in an air compressor to fill up those all important swim rafts or rubber boats.

Acceleration was pretty good, considering the weight of the vehicle. Merging was not a problem, nor was taking off from a traffic fight. Gas mileage was okay about 14 miles per gallon in the city, and 20 on the freeway. Price, not too bad either. My test vehicle came with just about every option available and was priced out at $28,682. However, you can get the base price of $24,000.

As your family gets bigger, you travel more, load more, and haul more. Your whole lifestyle grows. That why I would consider the Safari by GMC. If you like to travel in comfort, class, and style, choose this one. You can't go wrong!

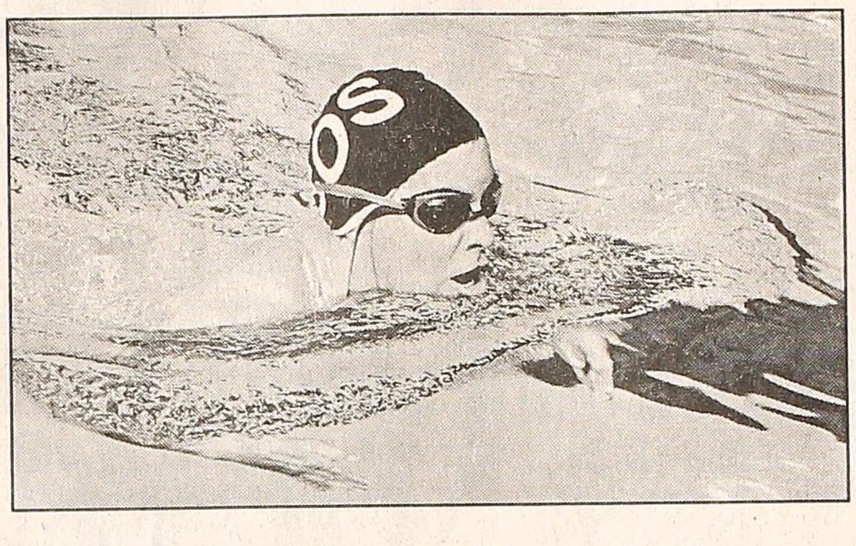


1998 Safari

Fairlane worker wins 8 Senior Olympic gold medals

By IVAN HELFMAN
MCN Staff Writer

When Kathy Beckley goes for the gold, she brings it home by the bagful. Beckley, 51, a customer service representative at Fairlane Town Center and a star athlete, recently brought home eight gold medals from the Detroit Senior Olympics held June 29 through July 2. She won three of her gold medals in track (50 meter, 100 meter and mile) and five in swimming (50 and 100 meter breast, 50 and 100 meter freestyle, and 100 meter individual medley).


Kathy Beckley, Senior Olympic gold medalist

My father always told me to live life to the fullest capacity because you're only here once.

An all-round athlete who medals in almost every competition she enters, Beckley's love affair with water began when she was 10 and took swimming lessons at the urging of her father. She competed as a youngster first as a diver and then as a swimmer, and she has continued her involvement with the sport to this day, traveling frequently during the year to participate in various meets and competitions around the country. Beckley swims competitively with the Southeastern Oakland Seals and the Michigan Masters, and she was selected to compete in the International Senior Olympics to be held in Morocco in the fall as well as in the National Senior Olympics, which will take place in California next year.

To keep fit for the competitions, Beckley, who is a grandmother, swims five to six days a week and walks a few times around Fairlane Town Center on the days when she doesn't swim. She credits her activity with helping her combat the effects of arthritis in the spine and hips.

In between her athletics and her customer service duties at Fairlane Town Center, Beckley is also a fourth grade teacher, a dance instructor and a performer who sings and plays several musical instruments.

"I love being active in life and meeting people," says Beckley. "My father always told me to live life to the fullest capacity because you're only here once, and that's what I'm trying to do."

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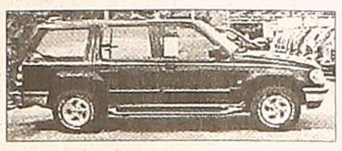

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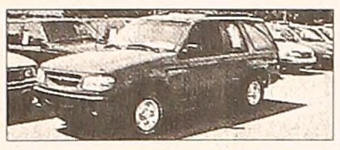

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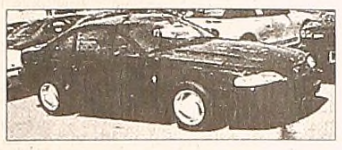

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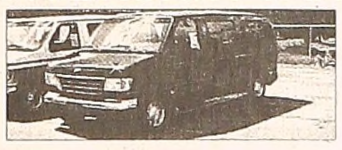

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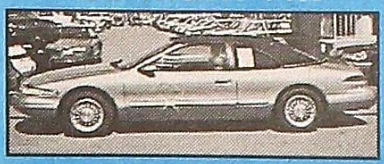
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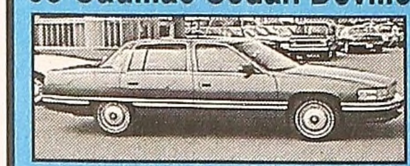
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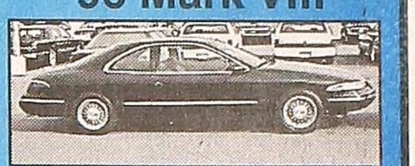
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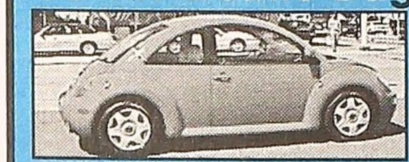
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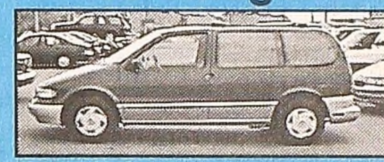
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36 Month Lease
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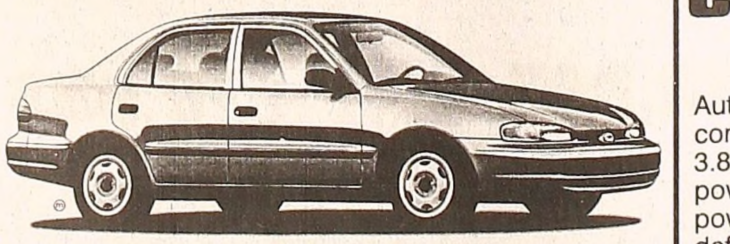

Automatic, air conditioning, rear defroster, CD player, cloth trim, power steering, power brakes.

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